Thacher

HERALDIC DESCRIPTION

Cross moline *argent;* on a chief *d'or*, three grasshoppers, proper.

A grasshopper, proper, resting on a helmet, visor closed.

CS
71
.T367
1978
v.5

Research Library

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Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678

Boston Branch
Descendants

Volume Five

James Peter[9] Thacher
Descendants
Ralph Webb[10] and William Peter[10]

Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678

Boston Branch
Descendants

Volume Five

Compiled By
Elwood James[11] Thacher
1907-

Winter Haven, Florida
1979

Elwood James[11] Thacher
United States Geological Survey
Retired
1967

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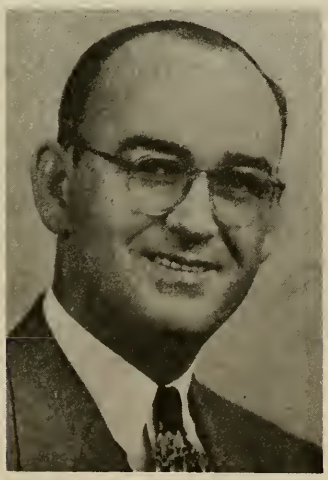
1978
v.5

Dedicated to William Peter[10] Thacher's four sons Elwood James[11], Sheldon William[11], Clifford James[11], Merlyn James[11], all born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. William Peter[10] Thacher and his four sons are direct descendants of Peter[1] Thacher of Queen Camel, England, who was born in 1545, four hundred and thirty four years ago. Thomas[2] Thacher, a descendant of Peter[1] and Peter[2] Thacher, was born in Milton Clevedon, England, in 1620, and came to America on the ship "JAMES" with his uncle Anthony[3] Thacher in 1635. See Volume One, page 202.

Elwood James[11] - 1907

Sheldon William[11] - 1912



Clifford James[11] - 1914

Merlyn James[11] - 1918

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to my brothers for their help in providing a biography of their past years. Without these remembrances, a family's past and their individual experiences would soon be forgotten, and perhaps lost forever.

I want to thank and acknowledge the League of Women Voters of Luzerne County, 1963, for their information on the early history of events, of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

In 1951 thirty two, eighth graders of the Roosevelt School with the help and guidance of their geography teacher, Mary Reilly, their principal, James J. Crane, and their superintendant of school, Miss Mary B. McAndrew, compiled a story of Carbondale for the City's one hundreth anniversary of March 15, 1951. To all of them, thank you.

It is indeed a pleasure to include the early histories and events of Wilkes-Barre and Carbondale, Pennsylvania in my Thacher family books of remembrances, and it is my hope that all of these books will provide many hours of reading enjoyment, now and in the future, for my family and all my relatives.

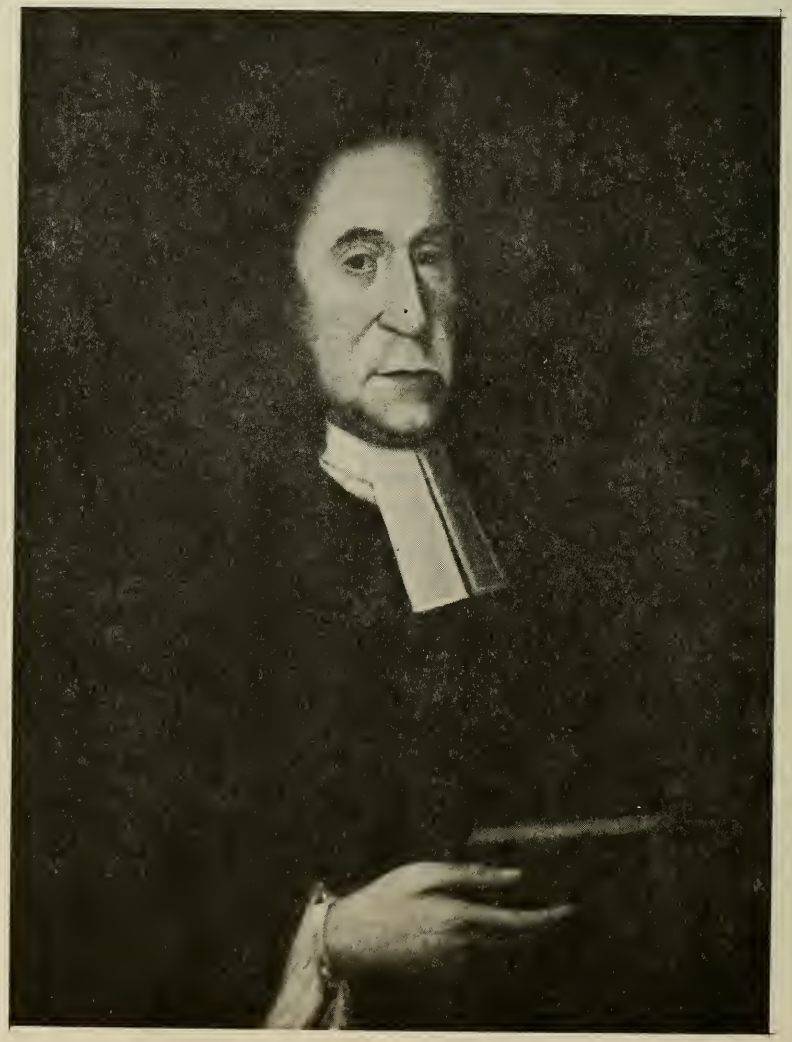
Rev. Thomas[3] Thacher was the son of Rev. Peter[2] Thacher, rector of St. Edmonds, Salisbury, County Wilts, England, born May 1, 1620, before his father was inducted into office. The family was probably originally from Somersetshire.[2] He came to America with his uncle Anthon[2] Thacher, 1588-1667, in the Ship "James" from Southampton, England. They landed in New England June 4, 1635.

Rev. Thomas[3] Thacher after landing in New England went to Ipswich with his uncle and other friends. He prepared for his profession under the Rev. Charles Chauncy, who was subsequently president of Harvard College, was equally celebrated as a devine and a physician. Thomas[3] Thacher received instructions in both of these professions. His good sense, united with a general acquantance with the science of the day, acquired for him a great reputation as a physician, and, to complete his honors, Mather asserts that he composed a Hebrew Lexican, so compressed that within one sheet of paper he had given every considerable work in the language.

Rev. Thomas[3] Thacher moved to Boston, Massachusetts, in 1667. On August 4, 1667, he became a member of the First Church of Boston. He preached occasionally in the town and elsewhere but for the most part was a practicing physician. He later issued a tract on "The Small Pocks or Measels" the first medical document published in America. A copy of which can be found in the Memorial History of Boston Vol. IV p. 536.

The last words which Thomas[3] ever spoke in a sermon were these: "God help us, that as we live by faith, so may we walk in it."

In 1678 Rev. Thomas[3] Thacher having visited a patient in fever, he was himself siezed with the disease, which terminated his existence at the early age of 58 years. He died on October 15, 1678, at Boston in the prime of his career.



Rev. Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678

INTRODUCTION

Boston Branch Thacher's Progenitors and Descendants

A compilation of Thomas[3] Thacher, 1620-1678, his progenitors to 1545, and a direct line of descendants to James Peter[9] Thacher, 1849-1920, and his descendants to 1973, is noted here. Chart pages showing direct line families and lineage is included in each volume.

Volume One: Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678
Boston Branch
and
Progenitors
(Peter[1], Peter[2], Thomas[3])

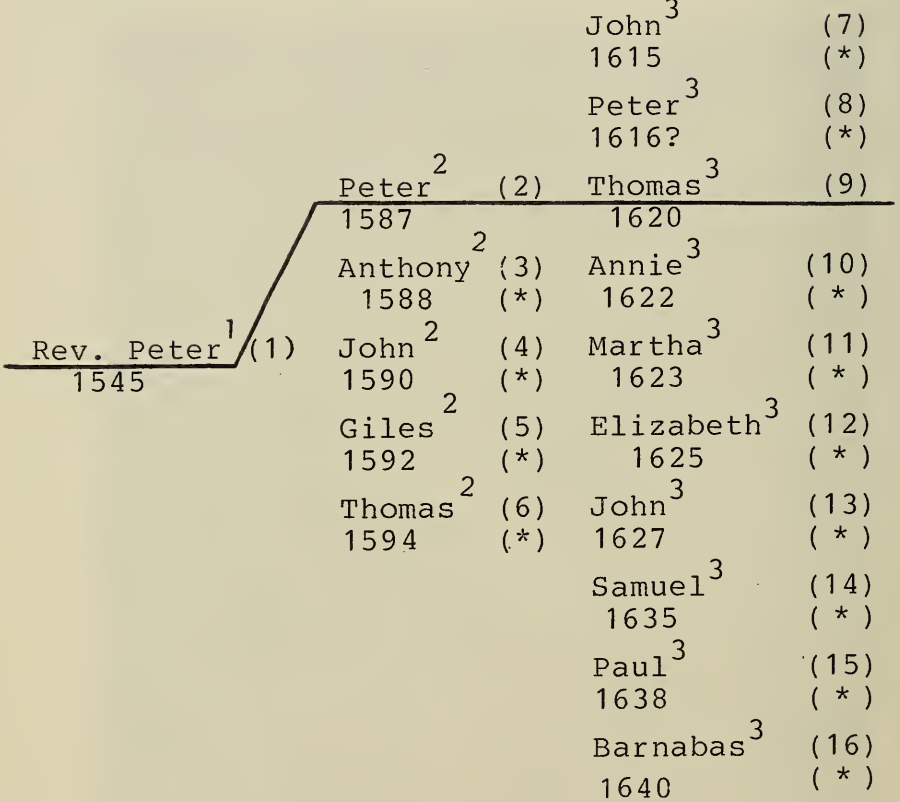
Volume Two: Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678
Boston Branch
Progenitors and Descendants
Reference Index

Volume Three: Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678
Boston Branch
Descendants
(Ralph[4], Peter[5], John[6])
(Peter[7], Peter[8], James Peter[9])

Volume Four: Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678
Boston Branch
Descendants
(James Peter[9] Descendants)

Volume Five: Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678
Boston Branch
Descendants
(Ralph[10] and William Peter[10] Descendants)

Thacher Families
Boston Branch
Rev. Peter[1] 1545, Rev. Peter[2] 1587



(1) Reference Index
Identity Number

(*) See Yarmouth Genealogy
Thacher-Thatcher Families

Thacher Families
Boston Branch
Rev. Thomas[3]1620, Rev. Ralph[4]1648

John[3] 1615	(*)			Thomas[5] 1670	(93)
Peter[3] 1616?	(*)			Elizabeth[5] 1672	(94)
Thomas[3] 1620	(9)	Thomas[4] 1644	(10)	Ann (a)[5] 1673	(95)
Annie[3] 1622	(*)	Peter[4] 1651	(11)	Ruth[5] 1675	(96)
Martha[3] 1623	(*)	Ralph[4] 1648	(12)	Rodolphus[5] 1677	(97)
Elizabeth[3] 1625	(*)	Elizabeth[4] 16--	(14)	Lydia[5] 1679	(98)
John[3] 1627	(*)	Patience (Kemp) (adopted)		Mary[5] 1681	(99)
Samuel[3] 1635	(*)			Ann (a)[5] 1683	(100)
Paul[3] 1638	(*)			Peter[5] 1686	(23)
Barnabas[3] 1640	(*)				

(*) See Yarmouth Genealogy
Thacher-Thatcher Families

Thacher Families
Boston Branch
Peter[5] 1686, John[6] 1739

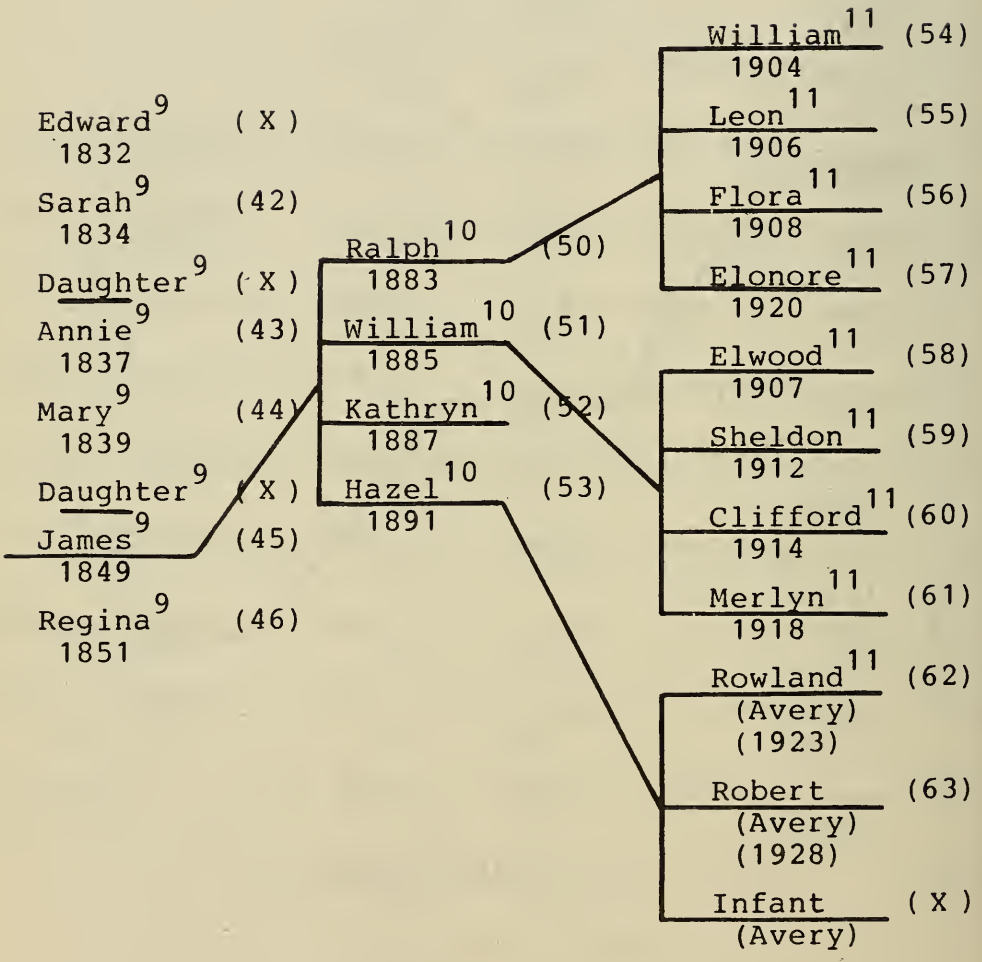
		Peter[6] 1716	(120)		
		John[6] 1719	(121)	Abigail[7] 1766	(X)
Thomas[5] 1670	(93)	Lydia[6] 1720	(122)	Jared[7] 1768	(151)
Elizabeth[5] 1672	(94)	Joseph[6] 1722	(123)	Peter[7] 1770	(27)
Ann(a)[5] 1673	(95)	Abigail[6] 1725	(124)	John[7] 1771	(X)
Ruth[5] 1675	(96)	Ruth[6] 1727	(125)	James[7] 1773	(152)
Rodolphus[5] 1677	(97)	Rodolphus[6] 1729	(126)	Lydia[7] 1776	(153)
Lydia[5] 1679	(98)	Samuel[6] 1730	(127)	Abigail[7] 1778	(154)
Mary[5] 1681	(99)	Josiah[6] 1733	(128)	Paulina[7] 1780	(155)
Ann(a)[5] 1683	(100)	Jared[6] 1735	(129)	John[7] 1783	(156)
Peter[5] 1686	(23)	Ebenezer[6] 1738	(X)	Jesse[7] 1785	(X)
		John[6] 1739	(25)	Nancy[7] 1787	(157)
		Rodolphus[6] 1742	(130)		

(X) died young

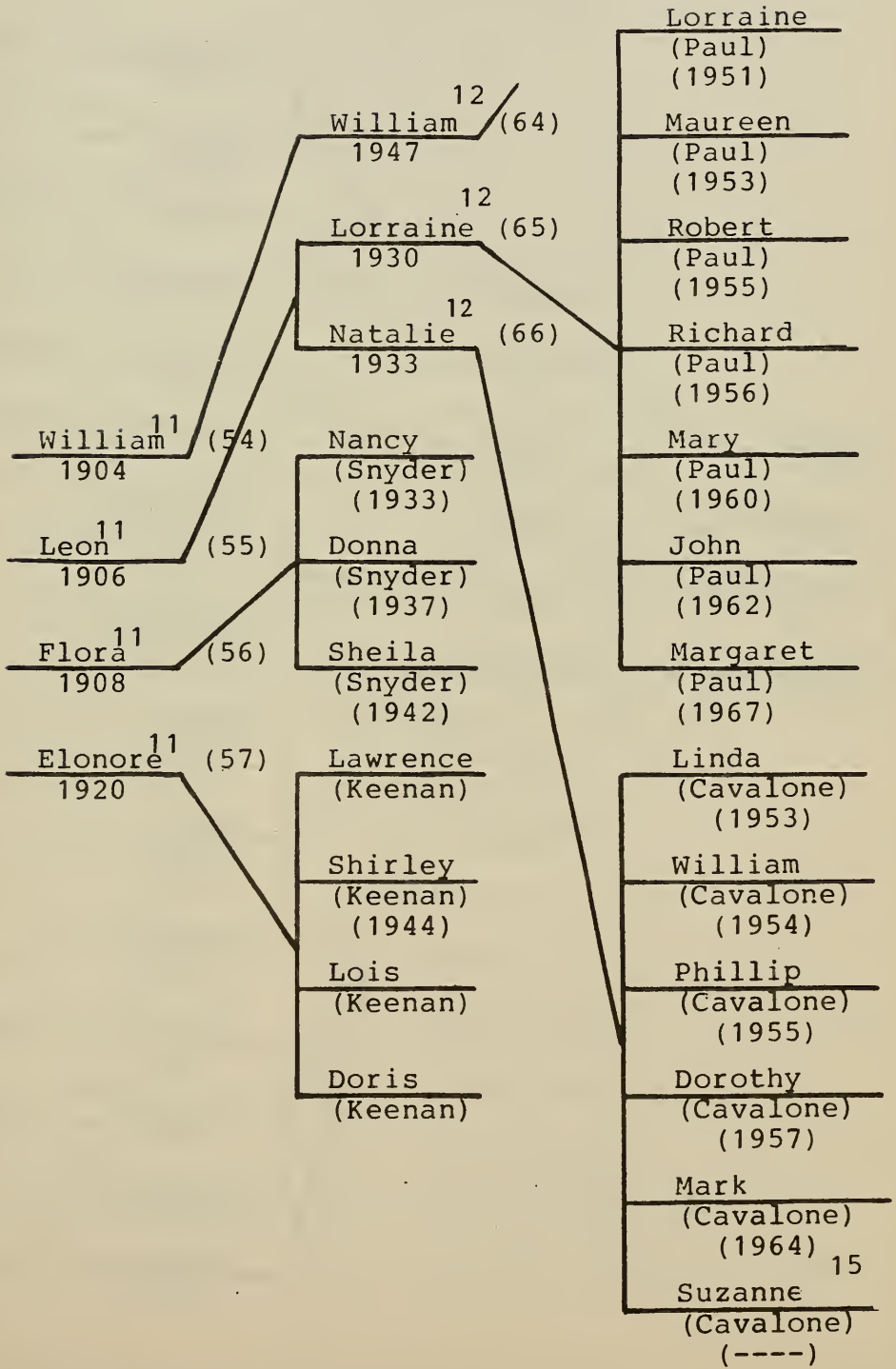
Thacher Families
Boston Branch
Peter[7] 1770, Peter[8] 1808

		Augustus[8] 1796	(264)		
Abigail[7] 1766	(X)	Emeline[8] 1798	(265)		
Jared[7] 1768	(151)	Nancy[8] 1800	(266)		
Peter[7] 1770	(27)	Sheldon[8] 1802	(29)	Edward[9] 1832	(X)
John[7] 1771	(X)	Abigail[8] 1804	(267)	Sarah[9] 1834	(42)
James[7] 1773	(152)	Lucy[8] 1806	(268)	Daughter[9] ——	(X)
Lydia[7] 1776	(153)	Peter[8] 1808	(31)	Annie[9] 1837	(43)
Abigail[7] 1778	(154)	Elizabeth[8] 1810	(269)	Mary[9] 1839	(44)
Paulina[7] 1780	(155)	Apphia[8] 1811	(270)	Daughter[9] ——	(X)
John[7] 1783	(156)	Thomas[8] 1815	(30)	James[9] 1849	(45)
Jesse[7] 1785	(X)	George[8] 1817	(32)	Regina[9] 1851	(46)
Nancy[7] 1787	(157)	John[8] ——	(X)		
		Charles[8] ——	(X)		

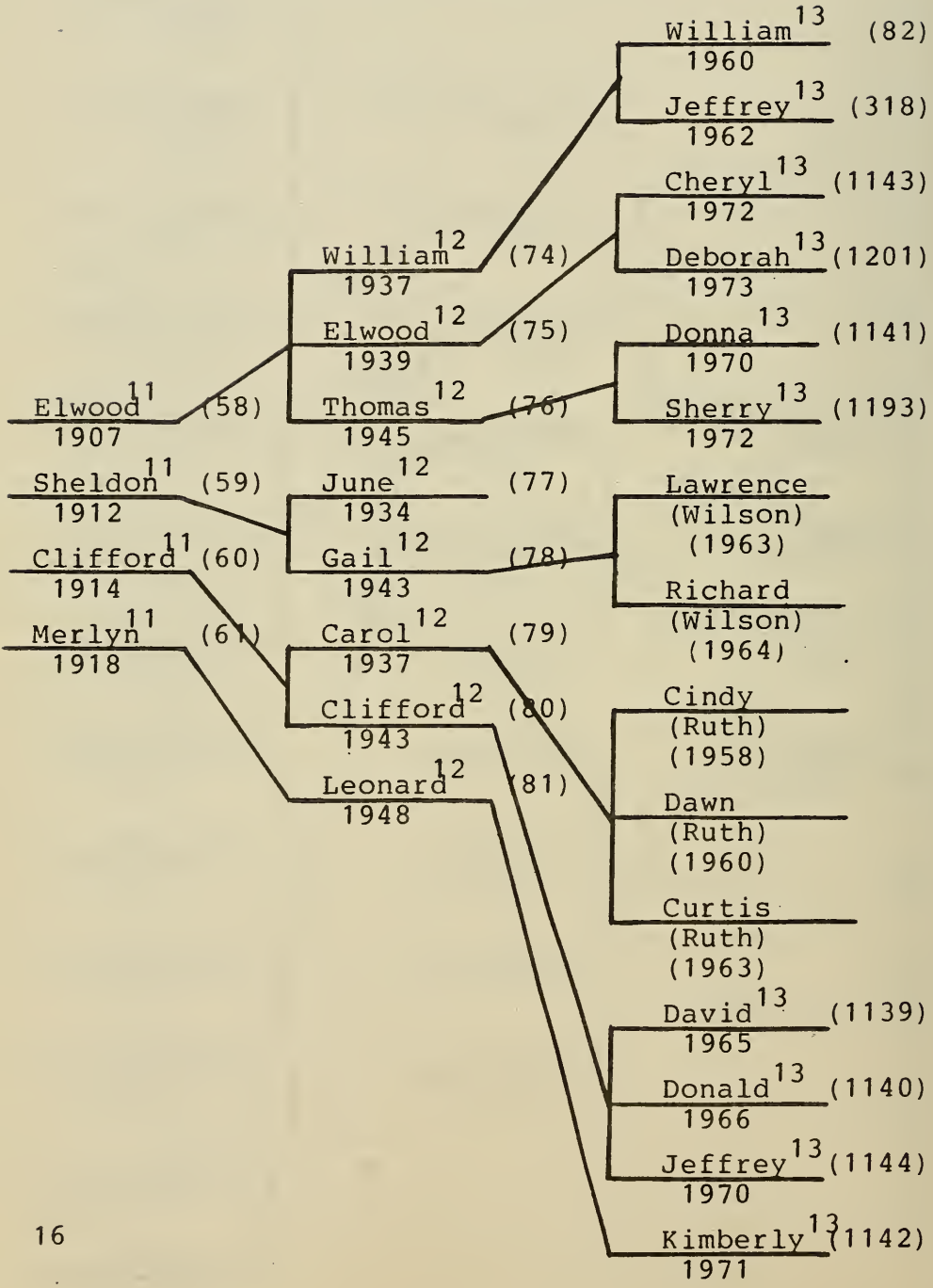
James Peter[9] Thacher
1849-1920
Descendants
Boston Branch



James Peter[9] Thacher
1849-1920
Descendants
Boston Branch



James Peter[9] Thacher
1849-1920
Descendants
Boston Branch



Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678
Boston Branch
Descendants
Ralph Webb[10] Thacher
and
William Peter[10] Thacher
Volume Five

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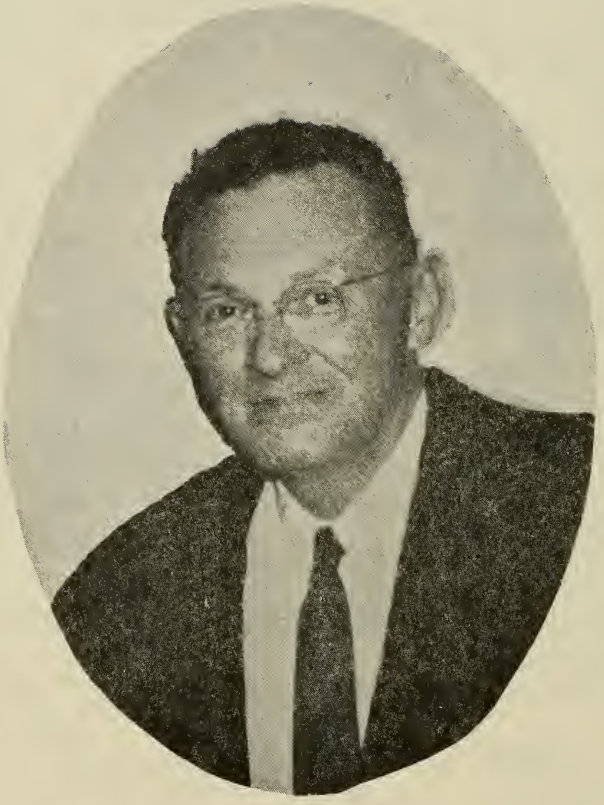


William Wallace[11] Thacher
1904-
1966

54 WILLIAM WALLACE[11] THACHER (Ralph Webb[10], James
50 Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev. Peter[5], Rev.
Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2], Rev. Peter[1],)
born Monday, July 4, 1904, at Greenfield Township (Newton Lake) Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania; he resided at Greenfield Township, Lanesboro, Carbondale, and Union Dale, in Pennsylvania, and Binghamton, New York; he was a developer of chemicals at General Aniline Corporation, Binghamton, New York, (Ansco); he lives in Binghamton, New York, 1979; he was married at Forest City, Pennsylvania, by Rev. P. B. Paukstis of the Simpson Roman Catholic Church on Saturday, April 30, 1938, to Josephine Joan Chesniuk of Simpson, Pennsylvania. She was born at Simpson on Sunday, February 27, 1910; her place of residence before marriage was Union Dale, Pennsylvania. She was a daughter of Jacob Chesniuk of Simpson, Pennsylvania, and his wife Mary Szczepankiewicz Chesniuk who resided at Simpson, Pennsylvania. Jacob Chesniuk was born in Russian Poland, Europe, on Saturday, April 25, 1885; he died at Union Dale, Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, May 26, 1959, and was buried at Forest City, Pennsylvania, in the Sacred Heart Cemetery; his wife, Mary Anna, was born in German Poland, Europe, on Tuesday, September 1, 1891; she died at Union Dale, Pennsylvania, on Thursday, June 26, 1958, and was buried at Forest City, Pennsylvania, in the Sacred Heart Cemetery. Jacob and Mary Chesniuk were married at Simpson, Pennsylvania, in the Simpson Roman Catholic Church on Sunday, September 29, 1907. They resided at Simpson.

Children: 1 (Thacher) 1 son

WILLAIM ANTHONY[12] 64
born Tuesday, March 4, 1947, at Binghamton, New York; married Helen Maheffey.

WILLAIM WALLACE[11] THACHER[10] was the oldest son of Ralph Webb Thacher. He was born on Monday, July 4, 1904, in Greenfield Township (Newton Lake) where cattle farming, and dairy products made up the major parts of the professional farmer's livelihood. In 1910 when William was six years old he started school in Greenfield where schools were still small, and in many cases had only one school teacher who was responsible for teaching several grades in a single room.

In 1912 William's father moved to Carbondale where he took up employment with the Delaware and Hudson Railroad as a locomotive fireman. William was only a youngster then and moving away from the farm was just another daily happening. But going to school in Carbondale was quite different from the farm schools. There were lots more children to play with, and many more rooms in the school, but he soon got used to his new environment.

All went well until 1914, when war broke out in Europe. Railroad business was booming and William's dad was reassigned to work in Lanesboro, Pennsylvania, where he was to "fire" those big Delaware and Hudson monster steam engines that pushed trains of war materials up the hill and over Ararat summit on the Moosic mountain. The family moved to Lanesboro shortly after his assignement, and William was transferred from the Carbondale school to the Lanesboro school. Living in Landsboro was more exciting for William. Going to school was o.k., but he had a more exciting time down by the Susquehanna river, fishing, swimming, and boating. All the pleasures he had hoped for. Tramping around his father's farm was great fun too, and there were lots of rabbits, pheasants, and squirrels here too. To see them scoot and disappear into the woods was great sport.

William was almost 11 in the summer of 1915, and picking potatoe-bugs on his father's farm was a great job, especially when the pay was five cents for a hundred bugs. This was how he made his spending money in those days. William's brother Leon and his cousin Elwood were always on hand too when it came to potatoe-bug picking time, for pay. Nickels went a long way then, candy was cheap and you could go to a nickelet (movie) for just one nickel. Payday was every day for William, Leon, and Elwood, who waited near the railroad station each day, waiting for Dad to bring his big D&H pusher along the main track siding. The farm was nearby too, and William's home was just a stones throw away from the pusher siding.

Climbing up the gangway of that monster locomotive was great fun for William and his helpers, but cashing in those potatoe-bugs was the best part. The poor bugs always ended up in the big firebox, cans and all. If William had to count the bugs, it wouldn't be such a happy job, but he didn't, and when the job was all finished, Dad and the boys headed home for supper and some of that wonderful coconut cake with boiled icing on top. William's mother, Hattie Tinklepaugh Thacher, was a great cook everything was always so good, and tasted just like you wanted it to. She even cooked those big ole sun fish, and those big long twisted eels that William, Leon and Elwood caught down at the river the night before. They tasted good too, after they were all cleaned up, skinned, quartered, and fried, and it was really something to watch those pieces of eel jump around in the frying pay, while they were cooking.

After the war was over in 1918, William's Dad moved back to Carbondale and settled at 63 Williams Street, not too far from his grandfather's home on Pike Street. William's grand-

father (James Peter[9] Thacher) died in 1920, and his Aunt Hazel Thacher married Raymond Avery in 1921. Shortly after, his Aunt Hazel and her husband, opened the "Thacher and Avery" confectionary store at 93 North Church Street. They lived here too, on the upper floors. The store was located at the foot of Caanan Street, just a few blocks away from William's home. It was a large home with a number of rooms, and William's grandmother, Flora Webb Thacher, and his Aunt Kathryn Thacher came to live with them. Except for his Uncle Bill Thacher and his family who lived in Wilkes-Barre, his father's family and his grandfather's family all lived near each other.

William was a young man of seventeen when he graduated from the Carbondale High School in 1921. He didn't go to college. Instead, he choose to stay at home and work in and around the city of Carbondale, participating in their activity programs. His mother Hattie Tinklepaugh Thacher died in 1930. In 1931, his father remarried, to Alice Denney Howell, and they all moved to Union Dale, Pennsylvania. William and his youngest sister Elonore were all that were home now. His brother Leon was married and so was his sister Dorcas. During the period he lived at home, William worked about the coal mines. On Saturday, April 30, 1938, he married Josephine Chesniuk who was living in Union Dale at the time. After their honeymoon, William and his wife Josephine settled in Union Dale for a few years, then moved to Binghamton, New York, where he went to work for the Ansco Corporation as a developer of chemicals for photographic film. William Thacher worked for the Ansco Corporation for 30 years. He retired August, 1969, and so says William, "I'll get some of those neglected jobs done around the house and do some hunting and fishing too."

William Wallace[11] Thacher's only child, William Anthony[12] was born at Binghamton, New York, on March 4th, 1947.

Leon Webb Thacher[11]
1906-1975
1966

55 LEON WEBB[11] THACHER (Ralph Webb[10], James Peter[9]
50 Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev. Peter[5], Rev. Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2], Rev. Peter[1]) born Saturday, May 19, 1906, at Greenfield Township (Newton Lake), Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania; he resided at Greenfield Township, Lanesboro, and Carbondale, Pennsylvania; Los Angeles, California, Brooklyn, New York, and Culvers Lake (Branchville), New Jersey; he was an Area Representative for the Gane Brothers Company of New York, Inc., a machinery and Bookbinding Supply Company; he graduated from the Carbondale High School in 1924; living with his wife Doris at Culvers Lake, New Jersey, 1973. Leon was first married at Brooklyn, New York on Monday, July 29, 1929, to Dorothy Luke of Brooklyn, New York. She was born at Brooklyn on Tuesday, August 20, 1907; living at Brooklyn, New York, 1968. Her place of residence before marriage was also Brooklyn. She was a daughter of Edward C. Luke of Brooklyn, New York, and his wife Emily Kufman Luke who resided at Brooklyn. Edward Luke was born at Brooklyn, New York, in 1865; his wife Emily was born at Brooklyn, New York, in 1867; Edward Luke and Emily Kufman were married in 1890. Leon Thacher died at Culver Lake, New Jersey, April, 1975.

Children: 2 (Thacher) 2 daughters

LORRAINE LOUISE[12] 65
born Friday, December 26, 1930, at Brooklyn, New York; married Robert Gerard Paul.

NATALIE JOAN[12] 66
born Monday, October 23, 1933, at Brooklyn, New York; married Frank Cavalone.

Leon Webb[11] Thacher was married a second time at Denville, New Jersey, on Saturday, February 10, 1954, to Doris May Curl of Roselle, New Jersey. She was born at Hackettstown, New Jersey, on Tuesday, December 26, 1916; living at Culvers Lake, New Jersey with her husband, 1973. Her place of residence before marriage was Roselle, New Jersey. She was a daughter of Harry Harrison Curl of Hackettstown, New Jersey, and his wife Gertrude Park Curl who resided at Hackettstown. Harry Curl was born at Hackettstown, New Jersey, on Sunday, August 12, 1888; he died Friday, June 21st, 1935; his wife Gertrude May was born at Hackettstown, New Jersey, on Friday, October 28, 1887; she died on Saturday, February 14, 1942. Harry Curl and Gertrude Park were married on Monday, September 4, 1911.

Flora Dorcas[11] Thacher
1908-
1966

56 FLORA DORCAS THACHER (Ralph Webb, James
50 Peter Peter, Peter, John, Rev. Peter, Rev. Ralph, Rev. Thomas, Rev. Peter, Rev. Peter) born Saturday, December 26, 1908, at Greenfield Township (Newton Lake) Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania; she resided at Greenfield Township, Lanesboro, and Carbondale, Pennsylvania; she was a licensed practical nurse, employed in hospitals and on private assignements, 1973; she was married at Carbondale on Friday, February 8, 1929, to Joseph Harry Snyder of Carbondale. Rev. Wesley I. Andrews of the Methodist Church in Carbondale performed the ceremony. Harry Snyder was born at Carbondale on Friday, July 14, 1905; he was a barber, but retired from business after losing a leg; his place of residence before marriage was Carbondale; he was a son of Charles Wallace Snyder and his wife Nellie Crosby Snyder who resided in Carbondale. Charles Snyder was born in Michigan on Monday, April 10, 1882; he died at Carbondale in October of 1962, and was buried in the Willow View Cemetery, Clifford, Pennsylvania. Nellie Elizabeth Crosby was born at West Wyoming, Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, January 2, 1883; she died in 1958; at Carbondale, and was buried in the Willow View Cemetery, Clifford, Pennsylvania. Charles Snyder and Nellie Crosby were married at Wyoming, Pennsylvania.

Children: 3 (Snyder) 3 daughters

NANCY JANE SNYDER
born Friday, May 12, 1933 at Carbondale, Pennsylvania; married Theodore Marvin Crosby.

DONNA CLAIR SNYDER
born February 20, 1937, at Carbondale, Pennsylvania; married Robert Brown.

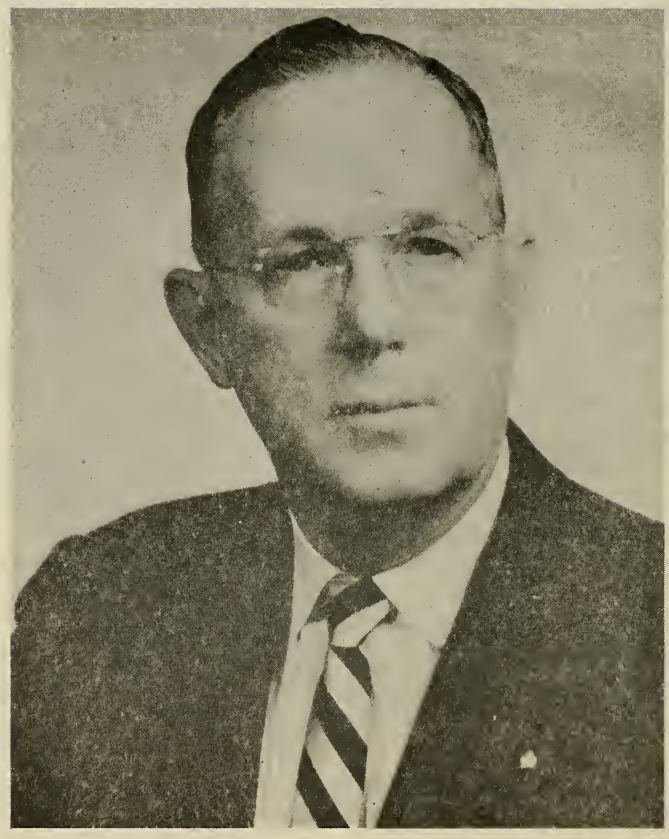
SHIELA MARIE SNYDER
born Monday, October 12, 1942, at Carbondale, Pennsylvania; married Carl Keithline.

Eleanor Ruth[11] Thacher
1920 - 1979
1966

57 ELEANOR RUTH[11] THATCHER (Ralph Webb[10], James
50 Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev. Peter[5], Rev.
Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2], Rev. Peter[1])
born Wednesday, March 3, 1920, at Carbondale,
Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania; she lived
at Carbondale and Union Dale, Pennsylvania;
she married Earl Keenan. Eleanor Thacher
died April 27, 1979, and was buried at
Union Dale, Pennsylvania.

Children: 4 (Kennan) 1 son 3 daughters
(Not in Thacher line)

LAWRENCE A. KEENAN
born Tuesday, June 2, 1942, at Union Dale,
Pennsylvania; he is not married, 1979.
SHIRLEY MAE KEENAN
born Tuesday, December 21, 1943, at Union
Dale, Pennsylvania; married Philip Burton
Jewell, Sr.
Children:
Philip Burton Jewell, Jr., born Wednesday,
January 6, 1965.
Linda Lee Jewell, born Monday, January 19,
1970.
LOIS ANN KEENAN
born Tuesday, April 10, 1945, at Carbondale,
Pennsylvania; married Robert Charles Kennedy.
Children:
Laura Sue Kennedy, born Thursday, May 22, 1969.
Robert David Kennedy, born Tuesday, June 6,
1972.
Jason Lee Kennedy, born Wednesday, August 27,
1975.
DORIS JEAN KEENAN
born Friday, August 19, 1949, at Carbondale,
Pennsylvania; married first Paul Kelly;
married second, David Stark.
Children:
Kenneth Paul Kelly, born Sunday, May 11, 1969.
Connie Marie Kelly, born Wednesday, January 27,
1971.



Elwood James[11] Thacher
1907-
1967

58 ELWOOD JAMES[11] THACHER[8] (William Peter[10], James
51 Peter[9], Peter[7], Peter[6], John[5], Rev. Peter[4], Rev.
Ralph[3], Rev. Thomas[2], Rev. Peter[1], Rev. Peter)
born Tuesday, July 23, 1907, at Wilkes-
Barre, Pennsylvania; resided at Wilkes-
Barre and Scranton, Pennsylvania, Arlington,
Virginia, Frederick, Maryland and Winter
Haven, Florida; he was a surveyor, and civil
engineer for the United States Geological
Survey, Washington, D.C.,; retired from
government service in 1967; graduated from
Coughlin High School, Wilkes-Barre, in
1926; Pennsylvania State College Branch
School of Civil Engineering in 1933;
studied cartography and mapping at the U.S.
Department of Agriculture School, Washington,
D.C., in 1949; civil engineering at the
University of Virginia Branch School,
Arlington, Virginia, from 1951 through 1953;
electronic data processing at the Burroughs
Corporation, Washington, D.C., in 1961;
married Arline Beatrice Millham of Wilkes-
Barre, on Tuesday, February 12, 1935. The
Rev. Wilton J. Dubrick, minister of the
Bennett Memorial Methodist Church of
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, performed the
ceremony; Arline Millham was born in
Wilkes-Barre, on Wednesday, December 14,
1910; she died at Winter Haven, Florida on
February 28th, 1974; her place of residence
before marriage was Wilkes-Barre; she was
a daughter of Ernest Roth Millham and his
wife Fannie Merle (Hinkle) Millham of
Wilkes-Barre; Ernest Millham was a
politician and a construction foreman for
the Pennsylvania Department of Highways in
Luzerne County; he was born at Wilkes-
Barre, on Friday, September 28, 1877; he
died at Wilkes-Barre, on Monday, June 14,
1948, and was buried in the Millham grave
lot in Hanover Green Cemetery, Hanover
Green, Pennsylvania, (just a few miles

south of Wilkes-Barre); Fannie Hinkle Millham, his wife was born at Briggsville, Pennsylvania on Saturday, February 3, 1883; she died at Wilkes-Barre, on Wednesday, September 16, 1959, and was buried in the Hanover Green Cemetery where a grave stone marks her resting place; Ernest Millham and Fannie Hinkle were married at Binghamton, New York on Monday, October 8, 1900, by Rector Samuel Denman Day of the Church of Good Shepard; they resided in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Children: 3 (Thacher) 3 sons, first two born in Scranton, Pennsylvania; last born in Arlington, Virginia.

WILLIAM PETER[12] 74
born Wednesday, March 3rd, 1937, at Scranton, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania; married Helen Janet Lukens.

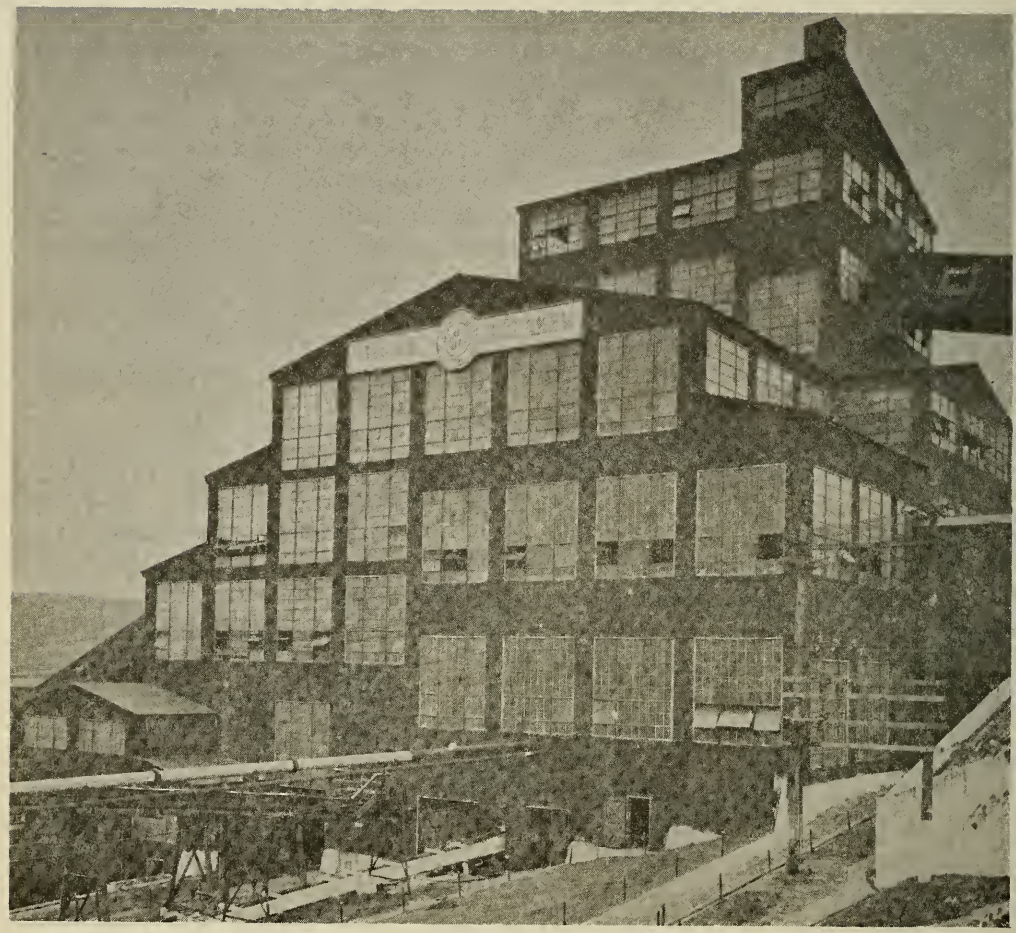
ELWOOD JAMES[12] 75
born Sunday, February 5th, 1939, at Scranton, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania; married Patricia Lynne Schultze.

THOMAS WAYNE[12] 76
born Friday, July 6th, 1945, at Arlington, Arlington County, Virginia; married Betty Ann Wilson.

ELWOOD JAMES[11] THACHER was born on Tuesday, July 23, 1907, in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He was baptized in the Bennett Memorial Methodist Church on New Grant Street. He completed grammar school at the Hillard Grove School in East End, and his junior high school years at the Union Street School on the corner of Union and Washington Streets, about a mile from his home. The building was torn down years ago in the 1940's, and a gas station stands there now. He graduated from Coughlin High School in downtown Wilkes-Barre in 1926. Students walked to and from school then, and High School classes began at 8:30 in the morning and ended at 1:15

p.m. Snow days were unheard of and the winters were long and snowy. It was not uncommon in the early 1900's for a heavy snow fall in November and stay snowy, icy and cold, for the rest of the winter. There were no high school study periods, no time outs, and no lunch periods. Before graduating, Elwood Thacher, along with three other students from the technical class, was interviewed by a representative of the Hudson Coal Company's engineering department during their recruiting program.

The Hudson Coal Company was a large and prominent organization in the anthracite coal fields with main offices in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Elwood accepted a job in their engineering department, and reported to Mr. Al Yetter the engineer in charge of all mining engineering for the company on July 1, 1926. His first assignment was at Pine Ridge colliery in Miners Mills, Pennsylvania, located about four miles from his home. Mr. Bruce S. Davies of Forty Fort was the colliery engineer then and Mr. James (Jimmy) Dixon was the superintendent. The men of the engineering department were John Dunnigan and Paul Carlin of Kingston, Howard Richards of Forty Fort and John Pero of Parsons. The Hudson Coal Company had several collieries like this one throughout Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties from Carbondale on the north to Plymouth on the south. Anthracite coal was first discovered in Carbondale by the Wurts brothers in the early 1800's, and it was first mined in 1822 by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. The Hudson Coal Comapny had collieries in Coalbrook, Carbondale, Olyphant, Jermyn, Marvine in Scranton, Pine Ridge and Delaware in Miners Mills, Baltimore in Parsons, and Loree Plymouth. The company had others but these were the large ones.



LOREE BREAKER
PLYMOUTH, PENNSYLVANIA

Built in 131 days after the old wooden breaker burned to the ground on the same sight. This breaker could process 6000 tons of Anthracite coal a day. In 1921 it prepared 1,502, 180 long tons for market, a world's record for a single plant. In 1930 Elwood James[11] Thacher worked at the Loree Colliery, as a surveyor in the Engineering Department.

When the stock market crashed in 1929, a great depression followed. Thousands of men lost their jobs and those who were fortunate enough to hold on were subjected to drastic reductions in salary without promotions. Elwood[11] Thacher was assigned to the Loree Colliery in 1931, and during his tour of duty there, studied civil engineering at the Pennsylvania State College branch school in Wilkes-Barre. He graduated in 1933 and was awarded a diploma in civil engineering. The Chicago Worlds Fair was in progress then and he and his father William Peter[10] Thacher visited Illinois and the Fair that year on vacation.

In 1936, Elwood[11] Thacher was assigned to the Marvine Colliery in Scranton. The Colliery is nonexistent now, and has been for a number of years, along with the Hudson Coal Company. It was sold to the Glen Alden Coal Company. Elwood worked for the Hudson Coal Company for fourteen years, advancing as surveyor and map maker, and had worked at all of the companies' operations. His assignments and responsibilities were varied and included many types of engineering, including mine surveys, land development, building and highway surveys, topography and mathematical computations. He compiled large and small scale maps, and detailed cross sections of the earths strata. Mining engineering had many diversified parts to it.

In 1939, Elwood[11] Thacher prepared for a Pennsylvania State Board Mine Foreman's examination to be taken in Scranton, Pennsylvania. The written examination required two days to complete and was taken on July 19th and 20th, under the direction of State Mine Inspector Mr. L. M. Evans and Mr. Jos. J. Walsh, Deputy Secretary of Mines for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 25, 1939. The certificate, number 5786, was entered into the

Pennsylvania Anthracite Mine Foreman's Certificate Book, Volume 8 as a permanent record. Elwood Thacher[11] was appointed section foreman at the Marvine Colliery a short time later where he supervised mining operations in several veins of coal. But after learning that the coal business was in a deteriorating decline, he choose to advance his engineering training elsewhere. In June of 1940 he applied to the United States Civil Service Commission in Washington, D.C., for an engineering position with the Geological Survey. In July 1940 he passed the Civil Service examination and was appointed a Senior Engineering Aid. He reported to Mr. Albert Pike, Division Engineer in Charge of the Atlantic Region, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., on October 16th, 1940.

Elwood Thacher[11] was 33 years old when he left the Hudson Coal Company to start a new engineering career with the United States Geological Survey, and during the next nearly thirty years with the Survey, he enjoyed many assignments and responsibilities. He was first assigned to planetable surveys in Tazewell, Virginia. Six months later, in December of 1940, he was engaged in topographic surveys and mapping in Piedmont, Alabama. In the spring of 1941 he was sent to Topsfield, Maine, to assist in mapping the Scraggley Lake area, a very rugged terrain in the north woods of Maine, near the Canadian border. The area was almost 100 percent evergreen woods. Geodetic surveys were few and far between here and Geological Survey mapping engineers were required to provide their own control surveys for the mapping project. After a minimum amount of planetable triangulation and surveys, topographic mapping operations began.

It was early spring and some snow was still on

the ground and topographic mapping was difficult to say the least. Thus, a type of mapping was used here that probably will never be used again. "Hoop and Holler" surveys the engineers called it. This was a type of survey where the engineer used a blank white double-mounted sheet of paper for plotting control points and topography, a planetable, an alidade instrument with compass, and an aneroid elevation meter for plotting heights of terrain. "Hoop and Holler" surveys were calls between the rodman and the engineer. The rodman pulled a 300 foot rope tape ahead to the limit, stretched the rope tight and called back to the engineer who in turn pointed his instrument in the direction of the rodman and plotted a position. The engineer then advanced plotting terrain elevation changes with his aneroid as he went along.

Geological Survey parties moved out of Maine just ahead of the snow in December of 1941, and Elwood Thacher[11] along with ten other engineers was assigned to Photogrammetric mapping at the Survey's new Clarendon office building in Arlington, Virginia. Photogrammetric mapping, was a practically new method of compiling maps in 1941, and it was done from glass negatives of aerial photography, with the use of Photogrammetric mapping instruments called Multiplex. This machine was one of the first instruments used by the Geological Survey in 1942 to produce topographic maps in volume. The Multiplex is obsolete now, and far better and more precise instruments are employed in map compilation.

In the spring of 1942 Elwood Thacher[11] was assigned to urban field mapping in the city of Taunton, Massachusetts, and it was here that he was promoted to assistant topographic engineer, and reassigned to the Newburyport East quadrangle also in Massachusetts. This was a very special assignment to him in that his Thacher

ancestors had landed nearby and had lived at Ipswich for a short time. They came to America from England in 1635. Elwood Thacher completed the Newburyport map and returned to the Arlington, Virginia, office and Photogrammetric mapping in November of 1942. Shortly after his return he became chairman of the Survey's Atlantic Region social activities for both field engineers and officer personnel. A chairmanship he held for more than ten years.

During the war years Elwood[11] Thacher was advanced to Photogrammetric Engineer and supervised map compilation of foreign areas needed by the army and military services. Thousands of square miles of topographic maps were compiled every month from aerial photography taken at 30,000 - 35,000 feet above the ground. Priority maps were delivered by security personnel to army headquarters in Washington, D.C., for immediate processing the day they were completed, and after a few hours of army processing, copies were flown to command fronts. Some military maps were even developed from 30 degree convergent photography taken miles away from the target area.

After the war, mapping by photogrammetric means from aerial photography became a profession and was recognized in all parts of the world. The United States Geological Survey was known around the world as a forerunner in research and mapping techniques and photogrammetric methods. The Survey had various types of mapping instruments, but the Multiplex stereomapping equipment that was employed in large numbers from 1941 was the first mechanical means used to produce planimetric and topographic maps in volume. The science of Photogrammetry has grown ten fold since 1941 and now maps can be produced electronically.

In January of 1953, Elwood[11] Thacher was assigned to the Geological Survey's office of Research and Technical Control in Washington, D.C., as an inspector of contract maps. Contract mapping was not a usual procedure in the Geological Survey but initiated after the war to advance certain areas of topographic mapping in the continental United States. It was a two-million dollar contract mapping program and required two Geological Survey inspectors to oversee the map compilation and maintain Geological Survey standards and specifications. Contract mapping plants were located as far south as Texas, and as far west as California, and the inspectors were required to travel long distances by air, train, and car, for staff appointments, and to examine completed maps for final Geological Survey processing and publication.

After the contract mapping program was completed, Elwood[11] Thacher was promoted to Chief of Plans in the Geological Survey's Atlantic Region office on August 21st, 1956. He was responsible for the mapping programs of twenty-two eastern states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. He also had the task of developing new program procedures for Field Surveys, Photogrammetry, and Cartography. In 1957 he initiated the starting developments of the Atlantic Region's first computerized mapping program, a tabulation of mapping operations in the field and in the office.

On April 19, 1959, Elwood[11] Thacher was detailed to the Geological Survey's Staff in Washington, D.C., in the office of Program Development, Branch of Program Control, Research and Analysis. His staff responsibilities included analyzing and evaluating topographic mapping programs of the four Geological Survey regions in the United States for conformance with staff standards and specifications. In this assignement he developed

the first draft of instructions for standard mapping program procedures. On completion of his Washington Staff assignments he returned to the Atlantic Region office in Arlington, Virginia, in January of 1961. During the following six years he developed new office procedures and map program control systems still in use. He retired from the Geological Survey in 1967 as Chief of Plans and Program Control. Two of his largest map planning programs involved the complete topographic mapping of the states of Ohio and Virginia, amounting to over twelve million dollars. The Ohio mapping program was completed as planned in a little over three years. A total of over 40,000 square miles of mapping and the production of over 600 quadrangle maps. The mapping program for the State of Virginia was comparable to that of Ohio, but was scheduled for completion in 1971.

Elwood Thacher[11] had many titles and positions and a very interesting and responsible career in his almost thirty years of civil service with the United States Geological Survey. He was well liked by his staff associates and fellow workers. Nothing was insignificant, he would go out of his way to help anyone, any time.

On January 24, 1969, at ceremonies in the Department of Interior building in Washington, D.C., Elwood Thacher[11] was presented with an honor award scroll and a solid silver service metal and lapel pin of the Department of Interior. He was also presented with a service award citation from the Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Walter J. Hickel, for Meritorious Service in performing his duties with the United States Geological Survey.

It is interesting to note some of the small uneventful happenings so much a part of everyone's growing-up years. Elwood Thacher attended church and Sunday School regularly in his youth and was promoted from his third Sunday School class in 1916. In those days it was the practice of the Bennett Memorial Methodist Church to award young children with a church book "Christ Comforteth" as a rememberance of their early Sunday School years. A simple but impressive little book with many bible verses so very important in every day living, even today. This small book of bible verses, still in good condition, is preserved with other Thacher family keepsakes. The little white church on the hill, "The Bennett Memorial Methodist Church" stands on the corner of New Grant and Chapel Streets today, just as white and picturesque as it was when it was dedicated in 1894.

The Thacher family attended the Bennett Church for over sixty years. Minnie Werry Thacher was the last to attend regularly. She had a stroke in 1968 and was later confined as a resident of the Green Ridge Convalescent Home in Scranton, Pennsylvania, from August 1968 until she died in July, 1971. Minnie was married by the Rev. J. N. Goodrich D.D. pastor of the Bennett Church in 1906. Minnie Thacher had four sons Elwood James, 1907, Sheldon William, 1912, Clifford James, 1914, and Merlyn James, 1920. For the benefit of posterity and the Thacher family, a short story of the "Little White Church on the Hill" is included in this Genealogy.

In 1920, at the age of thirteen, Elwood was a paper boy and delivered a hundred Times Leader newspapers, from the Delaware and Hudson's railroad terminal on Scott Street, to the other end of Scott Street about a mile away. The Times Leader was an independent newspaper then, and the plant and printing presses were located

on West Market Street about a block away from the square in Central City. Their printing presses, were visible through large plate-glass windows, on the street side of the building, and many public viewers watched the machines print, assemble, count and stack hundreds of newspapers every minute. All of the Wilkes-Barre's newspapers are consolidated now as the "Times Leader, The Evening News, Wilkes-Barre Record," and are published from the Record Plant on North Main Street.

It was also about 1920 when the O'Dea's, neighbors of the Thacher family, had a small dairy at their residence on Chapel Street, just across the street from the Bennett Church. Many a day Elwood would be on hand early in the morning to help the milkman deliver milk in the neighborhood. Delivering milk in those days, meant dipping it out of a large milkcan with a long-handled quart-pint sized dipper, and then pouring the milk into a container not always a bottle. Sometimes the customer would have only a dish, a growler, or whatever was handy to put the milk in.

During Elwood's junior high, and high school years, pocket money for movies and other pleasures had to be earned, and he worked for a Kulp family on Union Street in 1922 doing odd jobs before and after school. Some neighborhood movies were only a nickle then, and you could buy good candy at two pieces for a penny.

In the early 1900's a family grocery store account was almost a must and the Thacher family bought mostly all of their groceries and other family needs from the McGinley Brothers in East End. McGinley's store was a combination department and grocery store and was located in East End on Scott Street near the No. 8 Fire Engine House. From 1906 until the store went

out of business in the late twenties or early thirties, the Thachers delt here and believe it or not the cost of food was expensive too, when compared to the wages earned then, and now. In 1910, grocery store prices and miscellaneous items were priced pretty low as shown in the list below. In 1972, and 1979 these same items were priced a lot higher as shown on the right. Wages, of course, were much higher too, as the time span is over sixty years. But it's nice to note how groceries, clothing and miscellaneous items have increased through the years. From W.P. Thacher's 1910 McGinley Brothers account book we note:

ITEM	1910	1972	1979
10 lb. sugar	68 cents	$1.37	$2.44
1 qt. milk	10 cents	.32	.68
1 dz. eggs	26 cents	.69	.75
1 sp. thread	5 cents	.30	.45
1 dz. oranges	30 cents	1.20	1.60
1 bx. cornflakes	10 cents	.30	.68
1 bx. shreaded wheat	13 cents	.39	.63
1 lb. coffee	30 cents	1.09	2.55
1 btle. amonia	10 cents	.25	.35
25 lbs. flour	90 cents	2.65	4.90
1 gal. lamp oil	12 cents	.26	.60
1 btle. catsup	10 cents	.31	.59
1 can hand soap	10 cents	.23	.75
1 dz. lemons	30 cents	.70	1.09
1 can karo syrup	10 cents	.41	.72
1 lb. cheese	23 cents	1.00	2.80
1 bx. corn starch	9 cents	.29	.45
1 bx. blue tip matches	5 cents	.30	.40
1 bar soap	5 cents	.11	.26
1 bx. raisens	12 cents	.30	1.99
1 pr. shoes	2 dollars	7.00	18.00
1 pr. pumps	1 dollar	3.00	9.00
1 lb. ginger snaps	8 cents	.53	.95
1 can mollases	15 cents	.45	.99
1 Christmas tree	50 cents	5.00	6.50
2 lbs. nuts	25 cents	1.40	3.00

	ITEM	1910	1972	1979
1	pk. tobacco	5 cents	.35	.50
1	hd. lettuce	7 cents	.39	.49
1	bu. cellery	12 cents	.29	.49
1	broom	35 cents	1.50	3.59
1	lb. cornmeal	10 cents	.24	.51
1	jar mustard	10 cents	.18	.40
1	hd. cabbage	6 cents	.40	.63
1	can tomatoes	9 cents	.35	.48
1	lb. butter	35 cents	.85	1.79
1	lb. bacon	27 cents	.99	1.54
1	can corn	8 cents	.29	.38
1	lamp globe	10 cents	.80	1.10
1	can sardines	5 cents	.21	.59
1	can baking powder	10 cents	.39	.51
1	jar horse radish	10 cents	.25	.72
1	btle. vanilla	10 cents	.40	.98
1	pr. boots	3 dollars	8.75	10.50
1	shirt	50 cents	3.50	9.95
1	suit long underwear	1 dollar	3.25	4.50
1	hammock	2 dollars	7.95	10.50
4	yds. linen	1 dollar	12.00	14.00
1	pr. slippers	50 cents	2.95	6.95
1	sweater	2 dollars	7.95	13.00
1	pr. pants	1 dollar	6.95	10.95
1	pr. artics	2 dollars	5.95	11.95
1	pr. oxfords	3 dollars	10.00	16.00

Elwood Thacher took on heavier work during his high school summer vacations. In 1923 he worked for the B.G. Coon Construction Company, road builders. At that time the East End Boulevard, Route 115, Wilkes-Barre, was being concreted for the first time, and Elwood's job was assemblying reinforcement steel for the concrete. On random occasions he assisted the surveying crew placing grade stakes and performing as a rodman. In the summer of 1924 he worked in the shipping department of the Sheldon Axle and Spring Works on Cunningham Avenue. Sometimes loading open freight cars with steel and axles, and at other

times working the spring tempering section where the hot springs from the furnaces were deep dipped into tempering vats of oil, and then later polished. In the summer of 1925 he worked for the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey removing six and eight-inch oil pipe lines abandoned from service. The oil line began in Parsons, Pennsylvania, just a few miles north of Wilkes-Barre, and wound its way over the mountains, east through the Poconas to New Jersey. Elwood worked on this job all summer with the tong crew, walking back and forth to the job from home until the work reached Bear Creek, nine miles away. After that he camped out with the men in tents and eating in a large make-do mess hall.

It was an odd job disconnecting the long lengths of oil pipe line, and a tong crew's job was mainly operating a long-handled tong which was all steel and very heavy. The tong had a strong bicycle type link-chain permanently attached on one end, with the rest of the chain hanging loose. This loose chain was wrapped around the pipe and attached to a stop on the tong. With one man tapping on the top of the pipe-joint with a ballpean hammer, and four or five men pulling down on the tong, the pipe seal was loosened and then with a ratchet type operation of the tong on the pipe, the pipe was unscrewed and removed. These pipes were later removed to storing stations by pickup crews with pairs of strong horses. The pipes were then shipped by railroad to the oil plant in New Jersey.

Elwood joined the Susquehanna Chapter Order of DeMolay in 1922, a fraternity dedicated for the good of young men until they reached their majority, age 21. He was an active member participating in all activities, and fraternal offices as time went on. He was elected Master Councilor of the Susquehanna Chapter in June of

1926, and was awarded a Master Councilor's Jewel after completing his term of office. The Jewel in good condition is kept with families' keepsakes. From 1931 to 1933, Elwood attended the Pennsylvania State College Evening School, and along with his studies required for Civil Engineering, he was the school's backetball manager, and student chairman of the Social Club for schoolastic affairs. He was runner up for Penn State's all around student award in 1933. After graduating, he was the Alumni's secretary for many years.

Elwood Thacher applied for membership in the Masonic Lodge No. 61 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, in 1955, and after due process was elected into the Fraternity. He later advanced in all degrees, and became a member of the York Rite and Consistory Lodges. He completed his Masonic travels in 1956 with initiation and membership in the Irem Temple Shrine, in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

For over thirty years, from the time he was old enough to carry a gun, Elwood hunted large and small game in many counties throughout Pennsylvania with his father, William Peter Thacher, who was also an avid hunter and fisherman. William Thacher died in 1957 at the age of 72, his wife Minnie Werry Thacher died in 1971. She was 84.

Even though people were generally content in the early years of the 20th century, it was also a period of war, change, and progress. In 1917 the 1st World War broke out; then came the war in Europe with Hitler, and the attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese in 1941; then the undeclared war in Viet Nam, southeast asia developed, and progress in the United States became bumpy. Great numbers of people were very upset over an undeclared war, and conditions in

the U.S. became very unruly to say the least. Race and color disturbances, destruction, and physical fights developed. Confrontations with police and government happened again and again. Young people and college students rebelled causing tremendous damage to our colleges and campuses. It was a definite period of basic change in the 1960's. Young men and young women changed their codes of living, along with their dress, culture, and morality. Relations with parents and one another changed. It was not until the early 1970's that conditions of unsettledness quieted down somewhat. But even considering these periods of upheaval there was progress, and every U.S. president from McKinley to Nixon helped pave the way through science and common sense, for better things and better living for the majority of the peoples. Walking gave way to horses and wagons; horses and wagons gave way to street cars and trains; street cars and trains gave way to automobiles; automobiles gave way to airplanes and air travel; space landings on the moon is now reality; man's ability to survive in space is almost here; air travel will soon be space travel and lunar travel will follow. The good lord willing, science will march on, and many advances will come to pass for the benefit of mankind.

Elwood James[11] Thacher

Elwood James[11] Thacher

1907

1909

William Peter[10] Thacher
1885-1957
Minnie Werry Thacher
1887-1971
Elwood James[11] Thacher
1907-

1909

Elwood James Thacher, rear
and brothers
Clifford James left, Merlyn James front,
Sheldon William, right,
New Grant Street
Wilkes - Barre, Pennsylvania
1921

Flora Webb Thacher
and
Grandchildren
William Wallace" back left,
Leon Webb" back right,
Flora Dorcas" left center,
Flora Webb Thacher seated,
Elwood James" right center,
Sheldon William" front,
Lanesboro, Pennsylvania
1915

Elwood James" Thacher left,
Edward Lowe,
Russell Allabaugh
Wilkes - Barre, Pennsylvania
1926

Susquehanna Chapter
Order of De Molay
Degree Team
Elwood James Thacher, past master
(Front row right)
1926

Pennsylvania State College
Wilkes-Barre Campus
Graduating Class
Elwood James Thacher, C.E.
(Front row, second from left)
1933

Thacher Reunion
Nay Aug Park, Scranton, Pennsylvania
1938

Thacher Reunion
Nay Aug Park
Scranton, Pennsylvania
1938

1. William Joseph Werry, Jr., father of Minnie Werry Thacher, 2.

2. Minnie Werry Thacher.

3. Dorothy Walsh Thacher, wife of Sheldon William[11] Thacher, 11.

4. Merlyn James[11] Thacher, husband of Kathryn Wenner Thacher, 13.

5. Mildred Jones Thacher, wife of Clifford James[11] Thacher, 6.

6. Clifford James[11] Thacher, son of Minnie Werry Thacher, 2.

7. Carol Ann[12] Thacher, daughter of Clifford James[11] Thacher, 6.

8. Elwood James[11] Thacher, son of Minnie Werry Thacher, 2.

9. William Peter[12] Thacher, son of Elwood James[11] Thacher, 8.

10. Arline Millham Thacher, wife of Elwood James[11] Thacher, 8.

11. Sheldon William[11] Thacher, son of Minnie Werry Thacher, 2.

12. June Elizabeth[12] Thacher, daughter of Sheldon William[11] Thacher, 11.

13. Kathryn Wenner Thacher, wife of Merlyn James[11] Thacher, 4.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Department of Mines

Whereas, *It appears by report No.* 275 *of the Board of Examiners of the* Third *Anthracite Inspection District, dated the* 25th *day of* August *1939, that*

* * * * Elwood James Thacher * * * *

who was born in Pennsylvania, *is* 32 *years old, and has rendered service in and about the mines as follows:*

Five Years As Miner And One Year At General Company Work

has passed the required examination for

Mine Foreman

and given satisfactory evidence of fitness as to good conduct, capability and sobriety, in accordance with the provisions of the Acts of the General Assembly approved June 2, 1891 and April 14, 1903, and amendments and supplements thereto, the **Secretary of Mines** *does grant to the above-named applicant this Certificate of Qualification as* **Mine Foreman.**

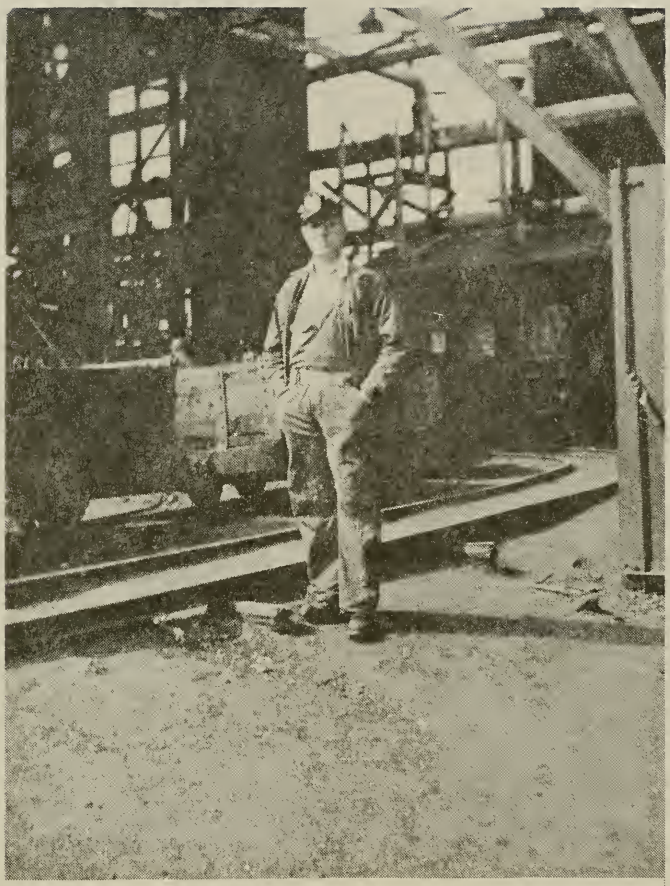
In Witness Whereof, *The Secretary of Mines has hereunto set his hand and caused the Seal of the Department of Mines to be affixed at Harrisburg, the* First *day of* September *1939*

John Ira Thomas

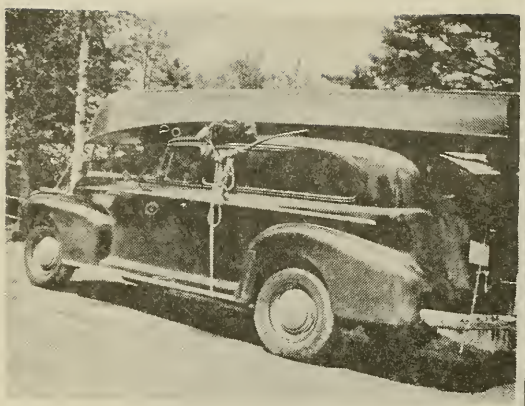
Secretary of Mines

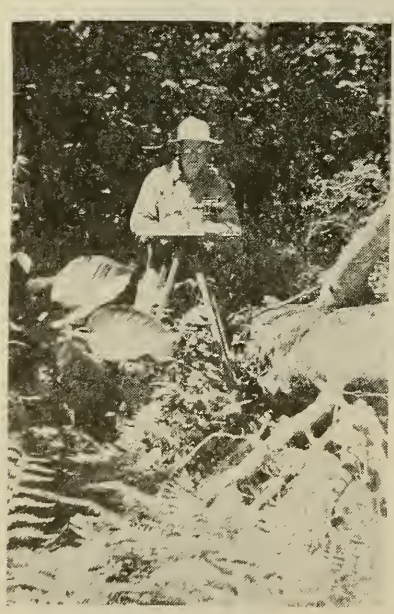
No. 5786 *Enrolled in Anthracite Mine Foremen's Certificate Book Volume* 8

94

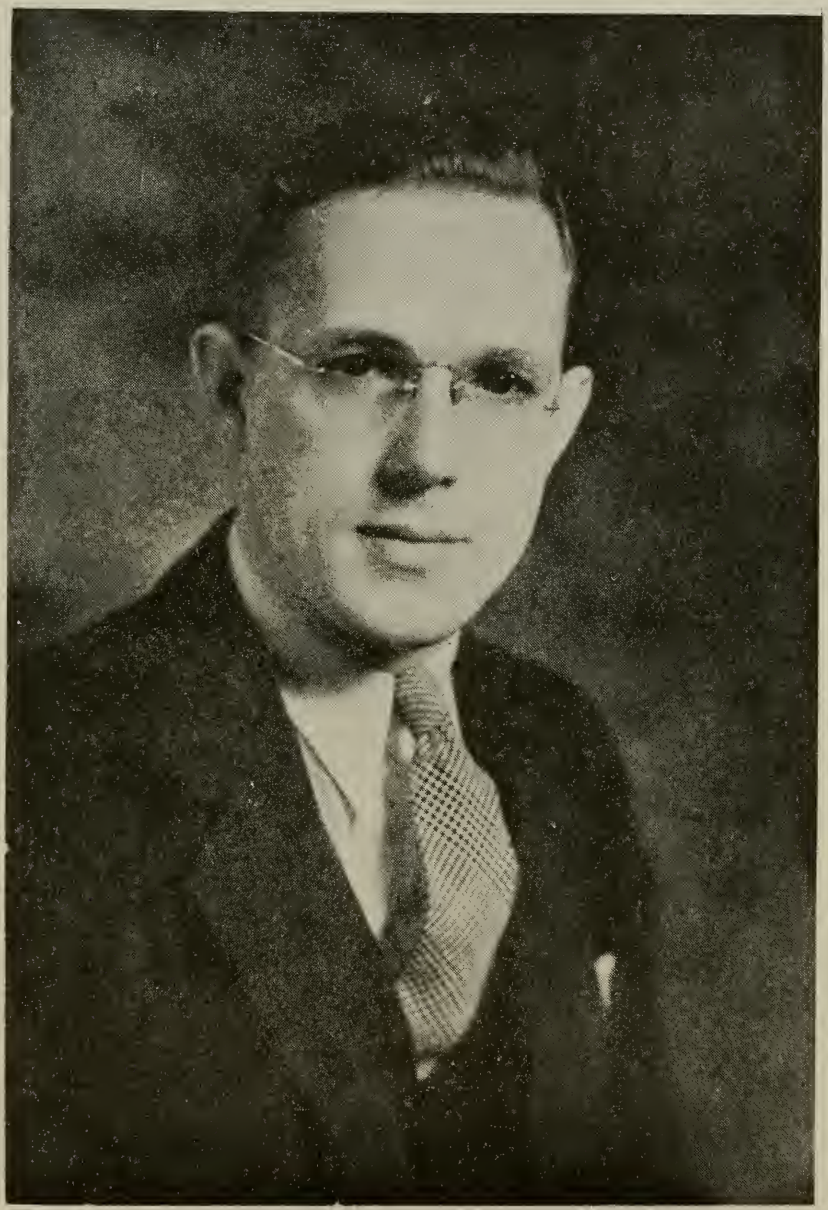


Elwood James[11] Thacher
Engineer- Section Foreman
Hudson Coal Company
Marvin Colliery, Scranton
Pennsylvania
1939

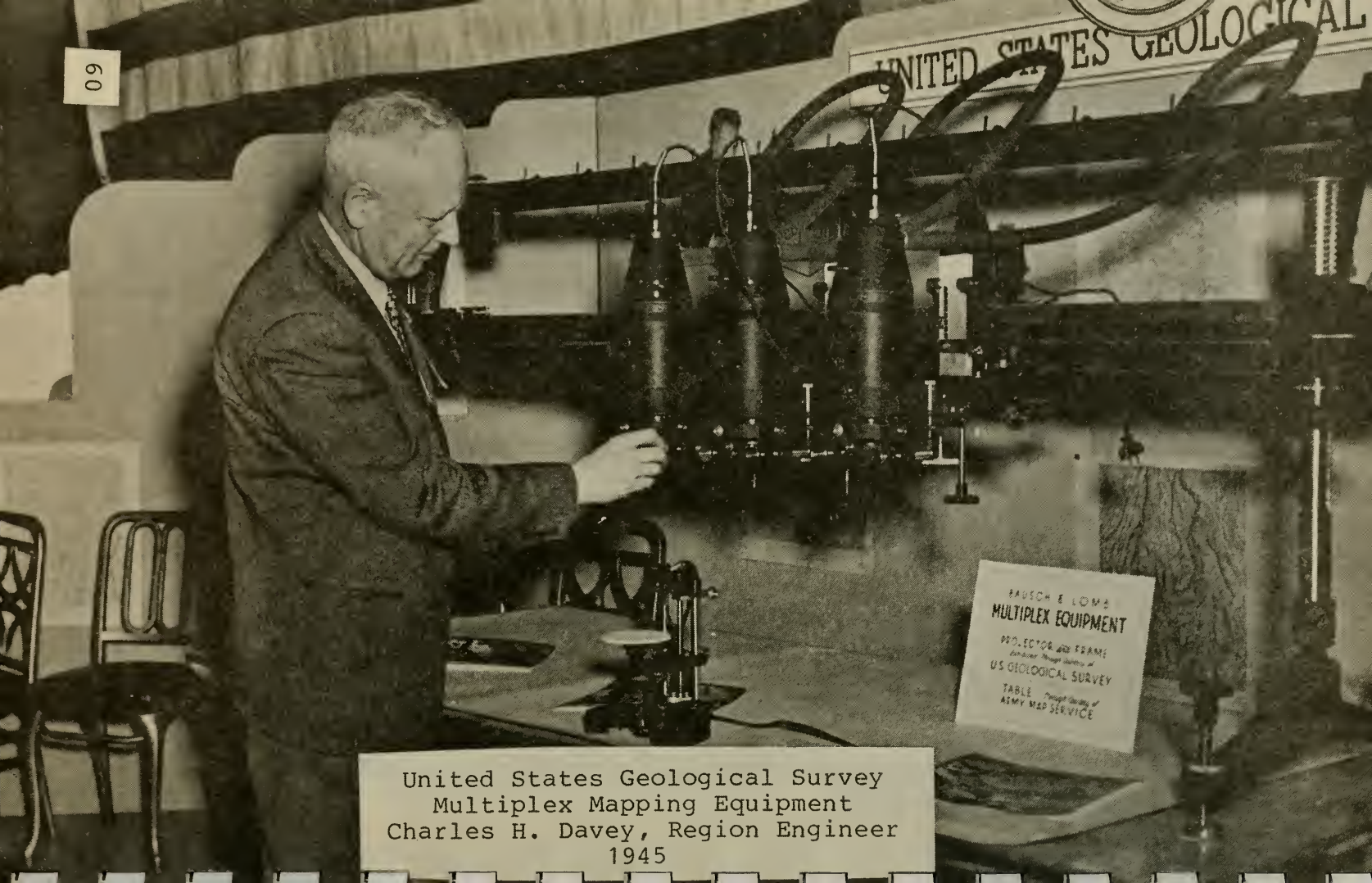




Elwood James Thacher[11]
Surveyor - Engineer
United States Geological Survey
Topographic Division
1940

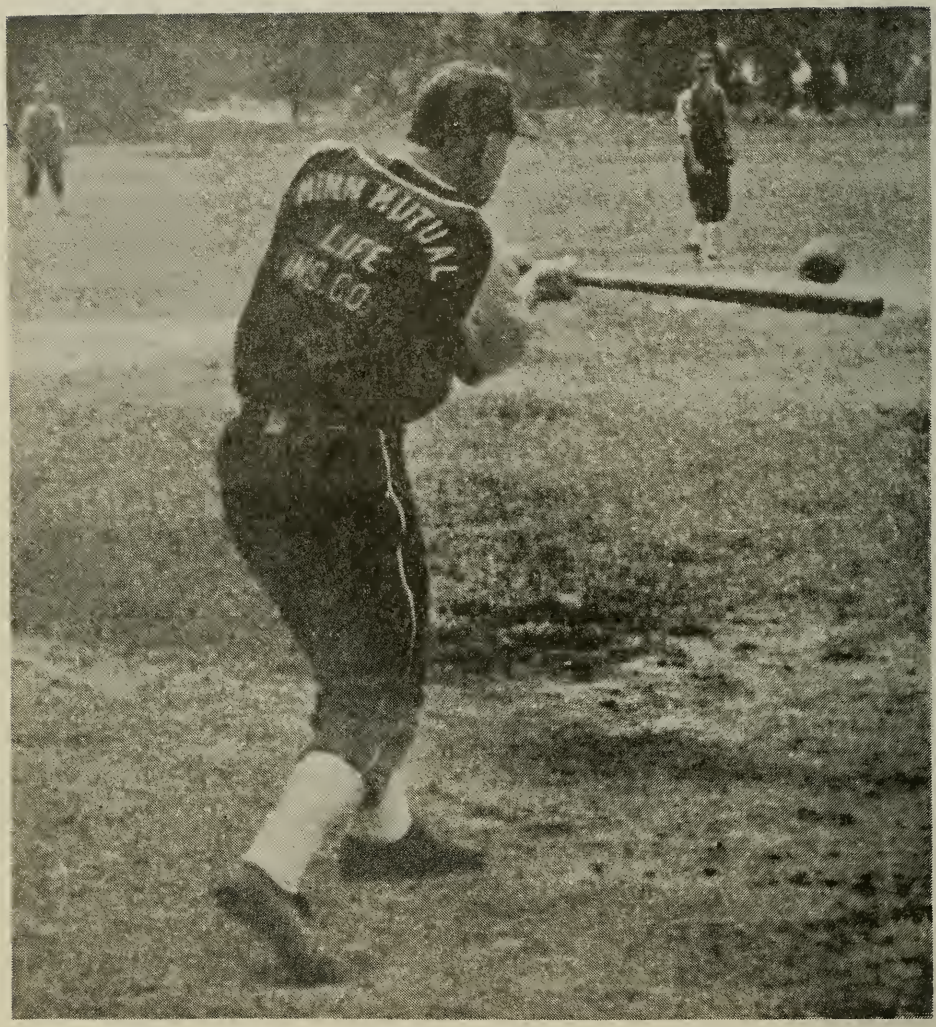


Elwood James[11] Thacher
U. S. Geological Survey
Washington, D.C.
1940

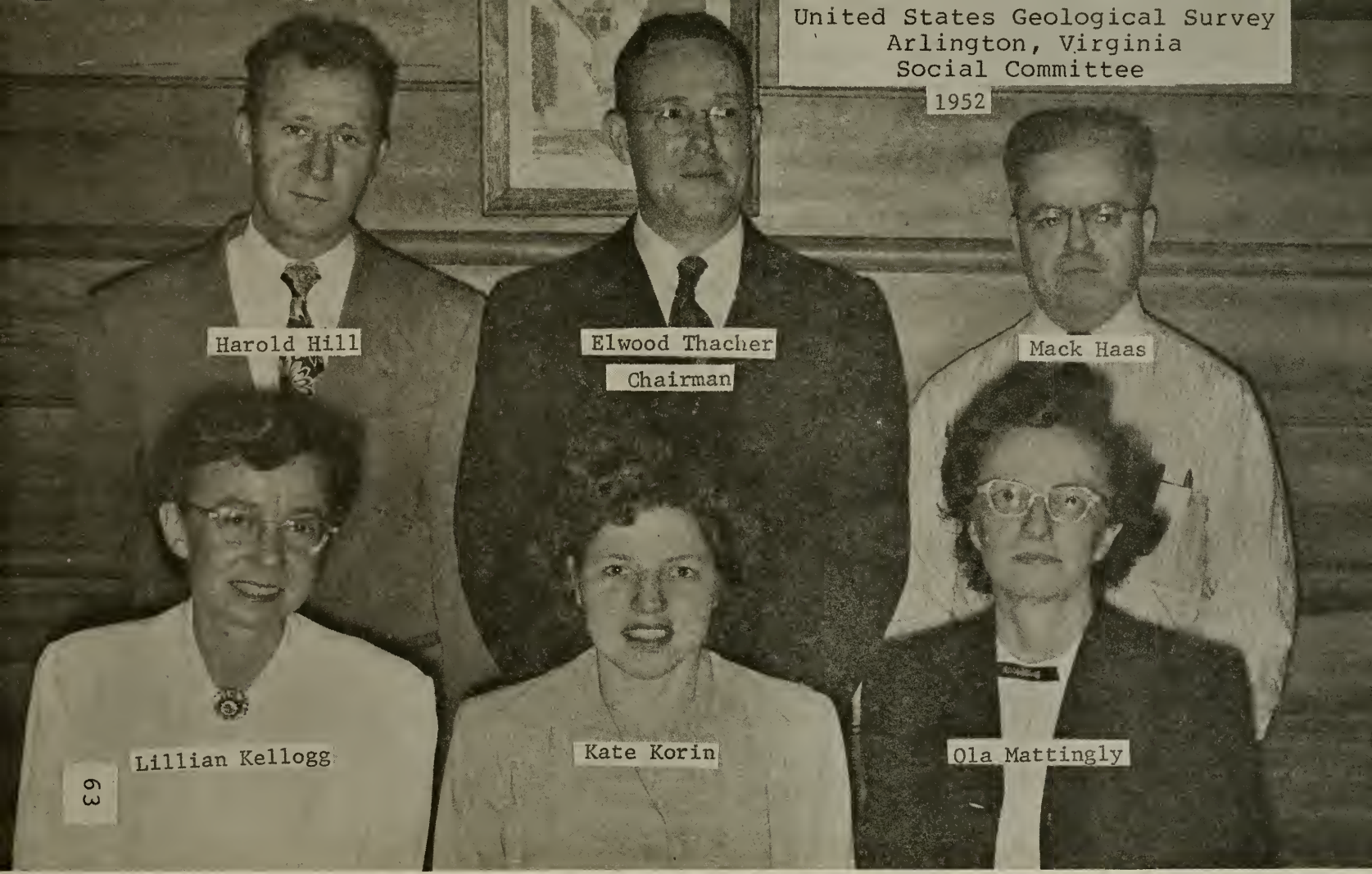


United States Geological Survey
Multiplex Mapping Equipment
Charles H. Davey, Region Engineer
1945

United States Geological Survey
Arlington, Virginia
Soft Ball Team
1948
Morris
Dwyer
Baker
Korin
DeAngelis
Nelson
Palfrey
Hippler
Thacher
manager
Ross
sponser
Martin
Tschantz
Blair
Walker
Scher



United States Geological Survey
Arlington, Virginia
Soft Ball Game
Elwood Thacher, batter
Gene Morris, pitcher
Steve Karin, short stop
1948


United States Geological Survey
Arlington, Virginia
Social Committee
1952
Harold Hill
Elwood Thacher
Chairman
Mack Haas
Lillian Kellogg
Kate Korin
Ola Mattingly
63

United States Geological Survey
Arlington, Virginia
Administration
1952

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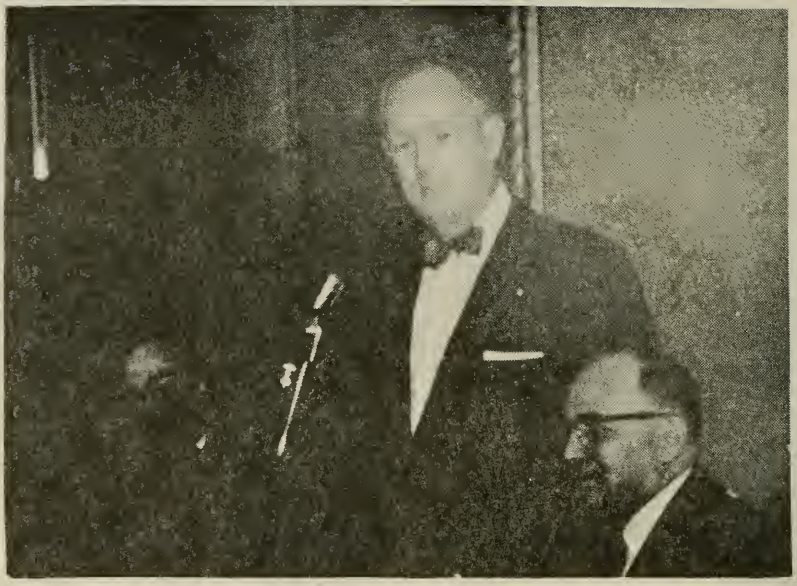
United States Geological Survey
Arlington, Virginia
Photogiametric Mapping Engineers

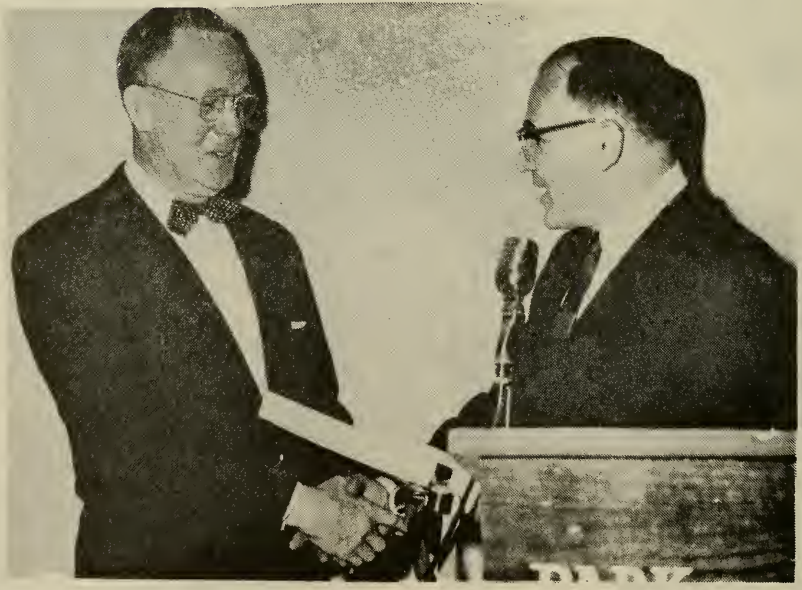
1. Farrington
2. Hopkins
   Supervisor
3. Webb
   Supervisor
4. Higginson
   Chief
5. Thacher
   Supervisor
6. Addi
7. Boisseau
8. Mathis
9. Priestaf
10. Clarkson
11. Perkins
12. Sherby
13. Payne
14. Coburn
15. Garza
16. Harsha
17. Parrish
18. Beaver
19. O'Neill
20. Craver
21. Matheny
22. Nugent
23. Gill
24. Cornwell
25. Budnick
26. McClane
27. Stewart
28. Mullen
29. Skibik
30. Revercomb
31. Cox
32. Mosby
33. Mellin
34. Riley
35. Dobbins
36. Gleason
37. Morris
38. Withington
39. Halsey
40. Botner
41. Mayer
42. Sanborn
43. Johnson
44. Young
45. Evans
46. Steger
47. Gasdik
48. Edwards
49. Schanda
50. McLaren
51. Moir
52. Borns
53. Tolozko
54. Waqoner
55. Kibbler
56. Robinson
57. Terry
58. McHenry

United States Geological Survey Staff
Plans and Program Development Conference
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia---
1965

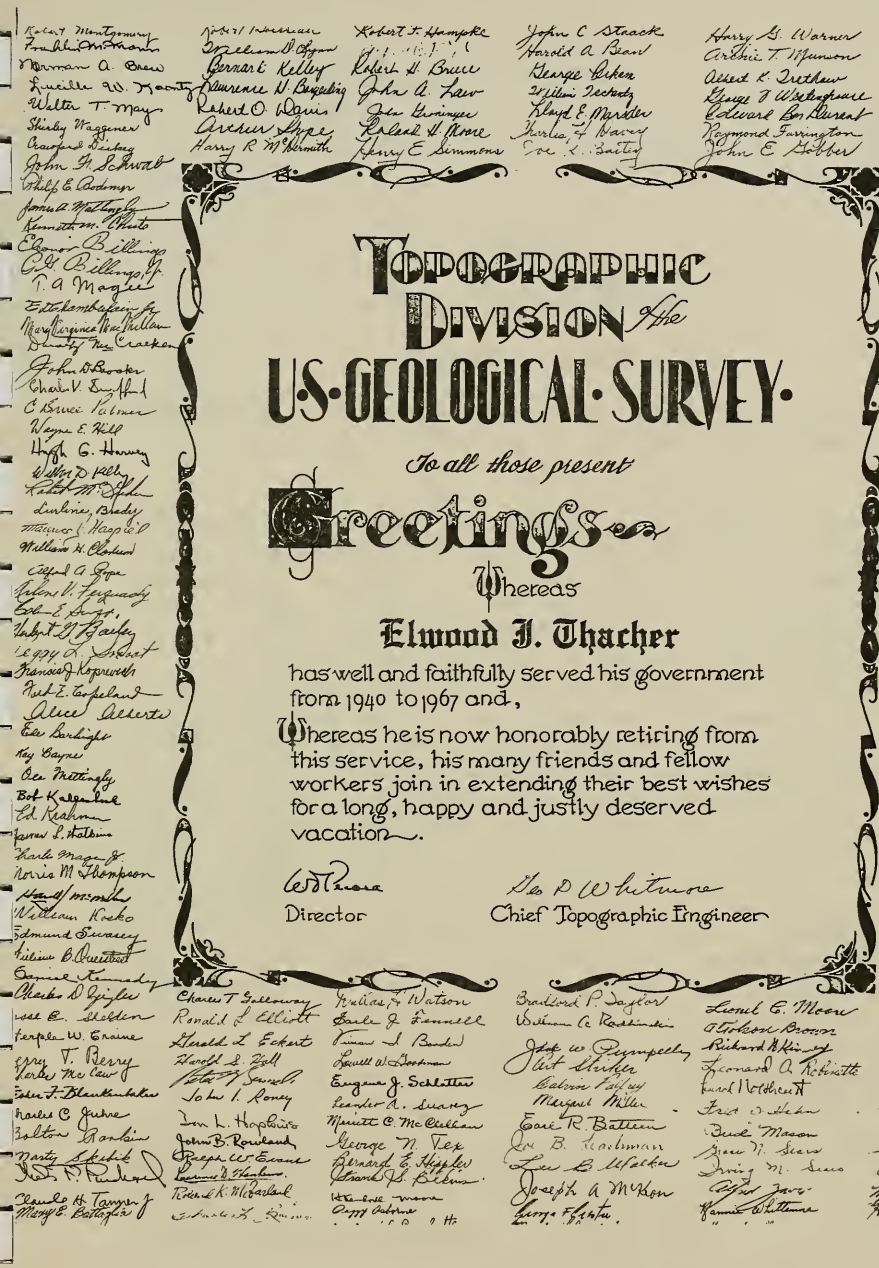
Front Row:
Van Camp, left, Bruce, Schalter, Leachman, McClellen, Southard, Corn, Thacher, Isto, Smart, Bowser.
Back Row:
Hopkins, left, Maxon, Wong, Sears, Mann, Northcutt, Dale, Kinney, Berman, Brew, Siebert, Krahmer, Bermel, Letey, Ziegler, Roney, Starr, Chamberlain, Kilmartin, Pinkerton, Zeh.



United States Geological Survey
Park Arlington Hotel
Arlington, Virginia
Retirement Farewell
Elwood J. Thacher
1967



United States Geological Survey
Presentation of Retirement Scroll
Park Arlington Hotel
Arlington, Virginia
Morris M. Thompson, right, Region Engineer
1967



United States
Department of the Interior
Geological Survey
Topographic Division
Retirement Schroll
1967

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON

CITATION

FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

ELWOOD J. THACHER

in recognition of superior Government service, all of which was with the Topographic Division of the Geological Survey.

From his entry into Federal service, Mr. Thacher has shown devotion and dedicated support in every respect to the Geological Survey. Early in his career, he showed a keen interest in the development of new and economical techniques in topographic mapping. He contributed many ideas for improving photogrammetric mapping operations. His personal example of applying extra effort to all assigned tasks has been an inspiration to those under his supervision. His inspection of maps produced under contract furthered the program of achieving greater topographic map coverage at a time when the Topographic Division was making urgent effort to expand its capacity. He developed programing methods to coordinate Region mapping programs with Division plans, standards, and the funds allocated. He served as a planning engineer during a period when the Atlantic Region's operations increased by more than 20 percent, and through extra effort and his intimate knowledge of Region personnel kept pace with the Region's needs without increasing the staff of his section. During his career he developed a graphical means of displaying the Region's operational plans in comparison with accomplishments as an aid to making rapid adjustments to planned programs. In recognition of his valuable contributions to the Geological Survey, Mr. Thacher is granted the Meritorious Service Award of the Department of the Interior.

Walter J. Hickel

Secretary of the Interior

United States Department of the Interior

Honor Award

Elwood J. Thacher

is hereby awarded this certificate of honor for

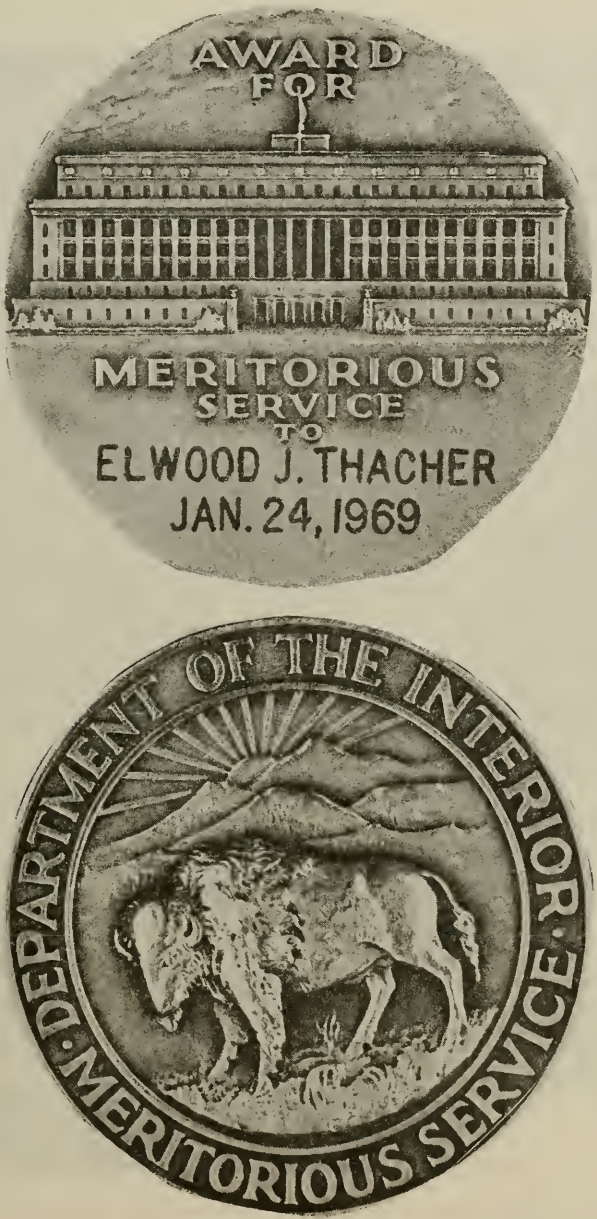
Meritorious Service

Given under my hand and seal this twenty fourth day of January 1969

Walter J. Hickel

Secretary of the Interior

United States Department of The Interior
Presentation of Meritorious Award
Elwood J. Thacher, left, retired 1967
Lawrence H. Dunn, Ass't. Secretary Administration
Hollis M. Dole, Ass't. Secretary Mineral Resources
William T. Pecora, Director Geological Survey
1969



United States
Department of the Interior
Meritorious Service Award
1969

Sheldon William[11] Thacher
1912-
1969

59 SHELDON WILLIAM[11] THACHER (William Peter,[10]
51 James Peter,[9] Peter,[8] Peter,[7] John,[6] Rev.
Peter,[5] Rev. Ralph,[4] Rev. Thomas,[3] Rev. Peter,[2]
Rev. Peter[1]) born Friday, June 21, 1912 at
Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania;
he lived at Wilkes-Barre and Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania and New York City, New York;
he is a Special Project Engineer for the
Tasty Baking Company of Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania; he lives at Drexel Hill,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (1972); he was
married at Bywood, Upper Darby, Delaware
County, Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, January
16, 1934 to Hazel Elizabeth Walsh of
Delaware County, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,
by Rev. _____ Dillworth minister of the
Mary Sellers Methodist Church; she was born
in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on _____;
she was a daughter of Daniel _____ Walsh
and of his wife _____ of _____;
her father was an employee of the State of
Pennsylvania; he was born on _____
_____, and died at Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania, on _____; he was
buried at _____ in Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania; he was married at_____
on _____; they resided in
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Children: 2 (Thacher) 2 daughters

JUNE ELIZABETH[12] 77
born Saturday, November 17, 1934, at Upper
Darby, Delaware County, Pennsylvania;
married Kenneth R. Miller.

GAIL VALERIE[12] 78
born Saturday, October 9, 1943, at Upper
Darby, Delaware County, Pennsylvania;
married first Lawrence Wilson, married
second John William Whiteside.

SHELDON WILLIAM[11] THACHER was born on Friday, June 21, 1912, at Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, where he lived for sixteen years. In 1928 he left high school and went to Philadelphia where he obtained work with the great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, in their A&P grocery stores. His first assignement as a store clerk was at 58th and Catherine Streets in Philadelphia. During the following two years the A&P Company transferred him from store to store and in different departments as part of his overall training in grocery store operations. In 1930 he was advanced to inventory store control in Philadelphia, where he worked until 1931. He was then assigned as a special store auditor under store control. In 1932 he was promoted to store manager and assigned to the A&P Company's 52nd and Greenway Avenue store in West Philadelphia. To better qualify himself in store management, Sheldon enrolled in business schooling and completed special courses in Inventory Control, Business Management Basic Law, and The Art of Salesmanship. A year later he was transferred to manage a larger store at 49th Street and Chester Avenue in West Philadelphia. In 1934 he was assigned as manager of the first A&P combination store on Lancaster Avenue in Ardmore, Pennsylvania. Here he was successful in developing increased grocery sales every year during the next three years. In 1937 Sheldon was transferred to Drexel Hill where he was to manage and develop grocery sales at the A&P's Garrett and Burmont Roads store. He was twenty-five years old now, ambitious, and aggressive, and felt that after nine years of hard work, he compensation was not equal to his sales production. So he left A&P Company to work for the Tasty Baking Company, in their sales division, serving stores in the brewery town section of Philadelphia.

Sheldon William[11] Thacher started his career in Tastykake service using the familiar Tastykake Horse drown wagon which was a familiar sight on the streets of Philadelphia from 1914 until 1941, when the last well-groomed grey was retired.

Sheldon William[11] Thacher
1938

Along with the steady advancement of business for the Tasty Baking Company. The mode of delivery of their Tastykake's was also improved. The company already had model "T" fords on their distribution routes, having started in 1916. But by the 1920's, the expansion of the business made it necessary for the salesmen to tie some of their cake cartons on the truck's front fenders.

Although Sheldon's assignments started with the horse and wagon he was also a salesman in areas where he used the electric truck too; and, as time advanced the modern Tastykake truck came on the scene. Today, modern truck fleets speed the distribution of Tastykake throughout the eastern areas, and sales continue to grow.

In 1938, he registered at school for an advance course in Salesmanship. He completed the work some weeks later.

On March 9, 1944, Sheldon William[11] Thacher was inducted into the United States Military Service. He was 32 years of age then but had already served two years in the Pennsylvania National Guard. He first enlisted in the Pennsylvania National Guard, 109th Field Artillery, Battery E on September 11, 1928, later serving with Battery F of the 108th Field Artillery from August 14, 1929. He was honorably discharged from the Pennsylvania National Guard on June 5, 1930.

After reporting to his U.S. draft board on March 9, 1944, Sheldon[11] Thacher was formally inducted into the army at New Cumberland, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and given tag number 33-773-265. He was then sent to Camp Rucker, Alabama, for his basic training with the 1408th Engineers. He left the United States from Camp Kilmer _____ on January 1, 1945, at 6 p.m., and at 8 p.m. boarded troopship "Borenquin" in New York City. They sailed from New York on January 3, 1945, at 10 o'clock in the morning. Thirteen days later on January 16, 1945, at 6:30 in the evening they arrived at Le Harve, France, and were immediately transported to Camp Lucky Strike, arriving there at midnite. It was a wet night with a combination of mud and snow, and it was cold too, when they put up their tents on the snowy ground. On February 3rd at 4 o'clock they left Camp Lucky Strike for Chartres, France arriving there on February 5th at 2:30 p.m. Most of their travel in France was by the noted 40 and 8 trains. Here they slept on straw beds and ate "C" and "K" rations. Their ride was jerky and the train it seemed had a hard time on the tracks. After arriving at Chartres, they

bunked in a former French German cavalry post, no cots, they just slept on the floor for eight days. It was here that they were able to take a shower and clean up, but cold water was all they had. This was the first time they were able to clean up since they left the United States.

They left Chartres on February 13th at 8 o'clock in the evening for Brussels, Belgium and arrived there on February 16, 1945, at 8:30 p.m. The unit did stop, however, in Paris for a day on the 15th where they boarded a passenger train for Brussels. In Brussels they had to live in a school attic in Anderlecht. But they did eat in the school auditorium. On May 26, 1945, at 4 in the afternoon they left Brussels by train for Marseille, France, and arrived there on May 29th at 7 o'clock in the morning. From here on June 24, 1945, at 7 p.m. they boarded the Merchant ship "Ocean Mail" and sailed for Christobal, Panama. They arrived here on July 7th at 10:30 in the morning. Their boat traveled through the Panama Canal on July 9th and docked in Panama on July 10th, 1945, at 11:00 a.m. It took the ship seven hours and forty minutes to go through the canal.

The Air Corps stationed at Albrook Airfield in Panama were good hosts. They furnished sheets for the cots and served good food. On July 14th they left Panama at 7 in the evening, and crossed the International Date Line on July 30, 1945, at 4:35 a.m. when that date became July 31, 1945. Here on this day, Sheldon William Thacher became a loyal member of the "Order of the Golden Dragon Selah!" and was presented with an official scroll, on which they spelled his name wrong. It should read Sheldon Thacher.

The 1408th Engineer Base Depot Group arrived in

the "Marshall Islands (ENIWETOK) on August 3, 1945, and their assignement ended on August 10th at 1:30 p.m. when they left for the Caroline Islands. They arrived here (ULITHI) on August 13th at 10:30 in the morning, and left on September 3rd, 1945, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon for Okinawa. They arrived in Okinawa six days later on September 9th at 9:00 a.m. At this point the 1408th Engineers had spent 77 days of their tour of duty on shipboard. A typhoon struck Okinawa on September 16th. Nineteen days later on September 28, 1945, they left Okinawa aboard the 1st 1075 for Jinsen (INCHON), Korea, and arrived there on October 6th. They were stationed at ASCOM CITY, seven miles from Jinsen. On arrival they were detailed to a warehouse where they spent the first night and ate "K" rations and had cocoa. The next day they started work on their quarters, which were former Japanese huts. On October 13th they moved from the warehouse into the quarters they had repaired for their use. Sheldon received orders to report to the 11th personnel center for processing his transfer back to U.S.A. on December 4, 1945. He transferred to the 74th replacement Depot and later received orders for leaving Korea on December 7th. He left Jinsen at 5 a.m. on the 8th and at 3:30 p.m., 22 miles away, he boarded an LCM at the dock, which transferred him to the S.S. Meteor in the harbor. He was assigned a sack in a compartment and then sat down to his first meal since leaving Jinsen. It was then 8 p.m. He left Korea for the United States on December 9, 1945, at 7 a.m. On December 26, 1945, the boat docked at Terminal Island. It was 5:35 in the afternoon. Sheldon then traveled by bus to camp and then by plane to his home in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Since January 3rd when the 1408th Engineer Group

left New York, they spent one hundred and twenty days at sea, sailed on four ships, and traveled over twenty eight thousand miles. He spent two months in France, three and one third months in Belgium, seven days in the Panama Canal Zone, two days in Cristobal (Colon), seven days in the Marshall Islands, twenty-one days in the Caroline Islands, eighteen days in Okinawa, and two months in Korea.

During his military service he was awarded the "Good Conduct Medal," "Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal," "European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal," with one "Bronze Star," "World War II Victory Medal," and the "Japan Army of Occupational Medal."

Sheldon William[11] Thacher's
Military Service Itinerary and Summary

1. Left Camp Kilmer, U.S.A. 1 Jan. 1945 - 6 P.M.
2. Boarded troopship Borenquin, New York 1 Jan. 1945 - 8 P.M.
3. Sailed from New York 3 Jan. 1945 - 10 A.M.
4. Arrived Le Harve, France 16 Jan. 1945 - 6:30 P.M.
5. Arrived Camp Lucky Strike, France 16 Jan 1945 12 P.M.
6. Left Camp Lucky Strike, 3 Feb. 1945 - 4 P.M.
7. Arrived Chartres, France 5 Feb. 1945 - 8 P.M.
8. Left Chartres 13 Feb. 1945 - 8 P.M.
9. Arrived Brussels, Belgium 16 Feb 1945 - 8:30 A.M.
10. Left Brussels 26 May 1945 - 4 P.M.
11. Arrived Marseille, France 29 May 1945 - 7 A.M.
12. Boarded Merchant ship Ocean Mail, France - 24 June 1945 - 7 P.M.
13. Sailed 24 June 1945 - 7:50 P.M.
14. Arrived Cristobal, Panama 7 July 1945 - 10:30 A.M.
15. Thru Panama Canal 9 July 1945 - 9:50 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

16. Docked Panama 10 July 1945 - 11 A.M.
17. Left Panama 14 July 1945 - 7 P.M.
18. Crossed International Date line, 30 July 1945 - 4:35 A.M. into 31 July 1945.
19. Arrived Marshall Islands, Japan (Eniwetok) 3 Aug. 1945.
20. Left Marshalls 10 Aug. 1945 - 1:30 P.M.
21. Arrived Caroline Islands (Ulithi), Japan 13 Aug. 1945 - 10:30 A.M.
22. Left Carolines 3 Sept. 1945 - 2 P.M.
23. Arrived Okinawa 9 Sept. 1945 - 9 A.M.
24. Left Okinawa 28 Sept. 1945 aboard LST 1075.
25. Arrived Jinsen (Inchon), Korea 6 Oct. 1945.
26. Stationed ASCOM City (7 miles from Jinsen) 6 Oct. 1945.
27. Left Korea, for U.S.A. 9 Dec. 1945.

WATER TRAVEL:

New York to France: Atlantic Ocean, Bay of Biscay, English Channel

Marseille to Korea: Mediterranean, Straight of Gibralter, Atlantic Carribean Sea, Panama Canal, Pacific Ocean, China Sea, Sea of Japan Yellow Sea

SEA MILEAGE:

U.S.A to France - 3600
France to Okinawa - 15,016
Okinawa to Korea - 1000
Korea to U.S.A. 7252

Ships sailed on:
Borenquin
Ocean Mail
LST 1075
SS Meteor

TIME SPENT IN:

Southampton Harbor - Overnight
English Channel - 2 days
France - 2 months
Belgium - 3 1/3 months
Panama Canal Zone - 7 days
Marshall Islands - 7 days
Caroline Islands - 21 days
Okinawa - 18 days
Korea - 2 months 2 days

DAYS AT SEA:

U.S.A. to France - 16
France to Okinawa - 77
Okinawa to Korea - 10
Korea to U.S.A. - 17
TOTAL 120

Sheldon William[11] Thacher was honorably discharged from the Army on January 3, 1946, at Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania.

After his discharge from the military service he returned to school and studied stock control and took a course in typing.

In March of 1946, Sheldon returned to the Tasty Baking Company, but later separated with them to go into the dry cleaning business called the "Beaty Clearners" at Garrett Road in Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania. He and his partner Albert Goldbert operated three stores and had six trucks. In 1952 business was unfavorable and they sold out. Sheldon then bought a carbon paper distributership - Dickel Co. - and maintained an office at 7th and Chesnut Streets in Philadelphia, but this was a highly competitive business and profits were slow and he was forces to sell out.

In January of 1953 Sheldon retuned to the Tasty Baking Company as a Special Salesman and worked in the Philadelphia Area until December of that year. On December 20th, he was advanced to Assistant Sales Promoter and the expansion of the New England Area. In December of 1954 he became Supervisor of this area.

In 1955 he was appointed branch manager of the New England and New York City Areas by the Tasty Baking Company. A position he held for twelve years. During his tour of duty in this position, he took formal courses in advanced Overall Management, Supervision Control, and Accounting to further his knowledge in a fast moving business world.[11] In 1967 Sheldon William Thacher was advanced to the Special Sales Staff, and returned to the main office in Philadelphia. In this position he worked with all the divisions of the Tastykake developing sales programs. A year later his job was expanded to

take in the "Snack" division, and in October of 1968 he was assigned to field operations to develop the "Snack" division. He had offices in Philadelphia, and Hanover, Pennsylvania, and Baltimore, Maryland. In this position he represented the Tasty Baking Company in the field, expanding special sales developments with brokers and distributers, which required many executive workshops to keep abreast with producation and product sales developments. Later in the year he was assigned to take charge of the new Tasty Flake Label sales. In 1969 Sheldon was assigned to head the development of Tasty Flake expansion program and the distribution of Tasty's products through Brokers, a job he is currently advancing.

Paul R. Kaiser, Chairman and President of the Tasty Baking Company, presented to the Newcomen Society on September 16, 1964 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the story of the Tasty Baking Company - - -

"Tastykake"

"Fifty Years of Quality"

1914-1964

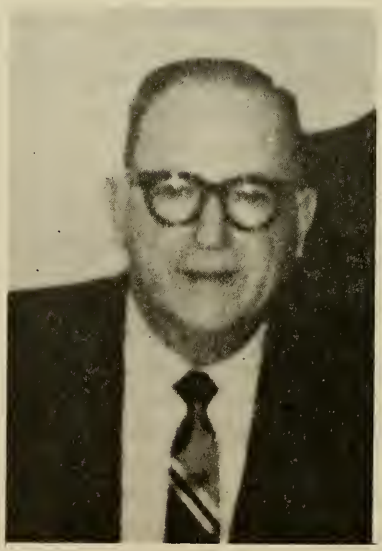
On the preface page of his booklet as presented to the Newcomen Society he says:

"Our Company, in miniture, may well serve as another example of American industry as a whole ---it began with two men and an idea and has progressed to the point where we now manufacture nearly 800-million individual, packaged small cakes and pies a year. From a single horse-drawn delivery wagon calling on a handful of local grocery stores, we have expanded our distribution to include more than 30,000 dealers serving the populous twelve-state Middle Atlantic Region."

The quotation may well cover in a few words the keen foresight and eager ambition of the Tasty Baking Company of Philadelphia.

The "American Newcomen" Society was established by the late L. F. Loree (1858-1940) of New York in Aoril of 1923. L. F. Loree was at that time dean of American Railroad Presidents and President of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad. He was interested in Material History, as distinguished from political history.

The Society's name perpetuates the life and work of Thomas Newcomen (1663-1729), the British pioneer, whose valuable contributions in improvements to the newly invented Steam Engine brought him lasting fame in the field of Mechanic Arts. The Newcomen Engines, whose period of use was from 1712 to 1775, paved a way for the Industrial Revolution. Newcomen's inventive genius preceded by more than 50 years the brilliant work in Steam by the world-famous James Watt.



Sheldon William[11] Thacher
1912 -
1969

App. not Req

Prepare in Duplicate

Local Board No. 4 32
Delaware County 045

FEB 29 1944 004

214 Municipal Bldg.
Upper Darby, Pa.

(Local Board Date Stamp With Code)

2/29/44
(Date of mailing)

ORDER TO REPORT FOR INDUCTION

The President of the United States,

To SHELDON (First name) WILLIAM (Middle name) THACHER (Last name)

Order No. 506

GREETING:

Having submitted yourself to a local board composed of your neighbors for the purpose of determining your availability for training and service in the land or naval forces of the United States, you are hereby notified that you have now been selected for training and service therein.

You will, therefore, report to the local board named above at 214 Municipal Building, Upper Darby, Pa. (Place of reporting)

at 8.30 a. m., on the 9th day of March, 19 44
(Hour of reporting)

This local board will furnish transportation to an induction station. You will there be examined, and, if accepted for training and service, you will then be inducted into the land or naval forces.

Persons reporting to the induction station in some instances may be rejected for physical or other reasons. It is well to keep this in mind in arranging your affairs, to prevent any undue hardship if you are rejected at the induction station. If you are employed, you should advise your employer of this notice and of the possibility that you may not be accepted at the induction station. Your employer can then be prepared to replace you if you are accepted, or to continue your employment if you are rejected.

Willful failure to report promptly to this local board at the hour and on the day named in this notice is a violation of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, as amended, and subjects the violator to fine and imprisonment.

If you are so far removed from your own local board that reporting in compliance with this order will be a serious hardship and you desire to report to a local board in the area of which you are now located, go immediately to that local board and make written request for transfer of your delivery for induction, taking this order with you.

~~Member~~ *or clerk of the local board.*

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—18271-6

D. S. S. Form 150
(Revised 1-15-43)

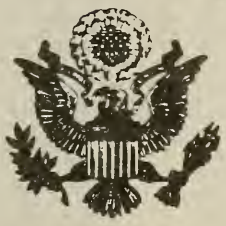
Know ye all under this puissant Emblem Rampant in the wide Sea Pacific, upon this day **July 30** on the good ship Ocean Mail occurred the Westward Crossing of the Line . . . whence Today became Yesterday and all the brave company thereon and thereby became loyal members of the Order of the Golden Dragon Selah!

Attested and Sworn is
Sheldon Thacher member
A A Adam Master

Paul M. Crown
Bob Lubbell
Chas. J. Obert

Geo. R. Mansfield
Fred H. Talbot
Frederick Phillips
Henry Kaffee

Army of the United States



Honorable Discharge

This is to certify that

SHELDON W THACHER 33 773 265 TECHNICIAN 4TH GRADE

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY 1408TH ENGINEER BASE DEPOT GROUP

Army of the United States

is hereby Honorably Discharged from the military service of the United States of America.

This certificate is awarded as a testimonial of Honest and Faithful Service to this country.

Given at UNIT A SEPARATION CENTER 45
INDIANTOWN GAP MIL RES PENNA

Date 3 JANUARY 1946

Bruce W Canright

BRUCE W CANRIGHT
MAJOR AC

SHELDON W THACHER

To you who answered the call of your country and served in its Armed Forces to bring about the total defeat of the enemy, I extend the heartfelt thanks of a grateful Nation. As one of the Nation's finest, you undertook the most severe task one can be called upon to perform. Because you demonstrated the fortitude, resourcefulness and calm judgment necessary to carry out that task, we now look to you for leadership and example in further exalting our country in peace.

Harry Truman

THE WHITE HOUSE

Sheldon William[11] Thacher
1912 -

Wilkes-Barre
Pennsylvania
1914

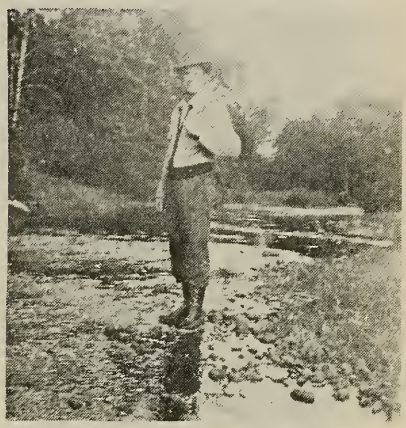
Carbondale
Pennsylvania
1917

Sheldon William Thacher, right
and brothers, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
Clifford James, left
Merlyn James, front
Elwood James, rear
1921

Sheldon William Thacher, center
and brothers, Carbondale, Pennsylvania
Merlyn James, left
Clifford James, right
1927

SHELDON WILLIAM[11] THACHER
1912-

Sheldon William[11]
seated left Wilkes-Barre
Pennsylvania
1934



Sheldon William[11] Thacher
Topsfield, Maine
1941

Minnie Werry Thacher and two of her four sons
Elwood James[11], left Sheldon William[11], right
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
1968

Clifford James[11] Thacher
1914-
1960

60 CLIFFORD JAMES THACHER (William Peter[11], James Peter[10], Peter[9], Peter[8], John[7], Rev. Peter[6], Rev. Ralph[5], Rev. Thomas[4], Rev. Peter[3], Rev. Peter[2], Rev. Peter[1]) born Saturday, August 22, 1914, at Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania; he lived at Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Lancaster, Williamsport, and Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, and Binghamton, New York; he is an Area Manager for the Grand Union Tea Company, Triple S Stamps Division, with his office in Binghamton, New York; he died at _____ on _____; living at Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, 1972; Clifford James Thacher married Mildred Tyson Jones of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, July 20, 1935. The Rev. John Harry Kelson, an uncle of the bride, and minister of the Bethel Baptist Church in Scranton, Pennsylvania performed the ceremony; Mildred Jones was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, on Thursday, December 11, 1913; she died at _____ on _____; living with her husband in Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, 1972; her place of residence before marriage was Wilkes-Barre; she was a daughter of Samuel Hugh Jones, and of his wife Sydna Thomas Jones of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania; they resided in Wilkes-Barre. Samuel Jones was an employee of Fowler Dick and Walker department store in Wilkes-Barre; he came to America from Wales, Great Britain sometime between 1901 and 1904 to study the ministry, but shortly after arriving he contracted typhoid fever and had to abandon his plans; he was first employed as a guard at a mental hospital in Butte, Montana; he later came east and worked at the Welsh Consistory Home in Utica, New York; from Utica he came to the Wilkes-Barre Fowler Dick and Walker store on south main street; Samuel Jones was born on _____, 1883, at Ffestiniog in northwest Wales, Great Britain; he died at

51

Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, July 27, 1948, age 65; he was buried in the Mount Greenwood Cemetery at Trucksville, Pennsylvania. Sydna Thomas Jones was born at _____ on _____; she died at Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, October 28, 1958, and was buried in the Mount Greenwood Cemeter at Trucksville, Pennsylvania; Samuel Jones and Sydna Thomas were married at Wilkes-Barre, on _____ 1912; he was 28 years old when he married; they resided in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Children: 2 (Thacher) 1 son and 1 daughter

CAROL ANN[12] 79
born Friday, February 5, 1937, at Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania; married Charles Clifford Ruth.

CLIFFORD SAMUEL 80
born Wednesday, May 19, 1943, at Kingston, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania; married Marlene Anne Mack.

CLIFFORD JAMES[11] THACHER was born and raised in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, where he lived for 23 years. He received his grammer school education at the Hillard Grove School (now the Mackin School), and his high school education at the Coughlin High School in Wilkes-Barre. He was first employed with the Fowler, Dick, and Walker, the Boston Store in Wilkes-Barre, as a stock clerk. In 1935 he joined the Grand Union Tea Company as a stock clerk and worked in Wilkes-Barre for the following two years. In September of 1935, he married Mildred Tyosn Jones who lived on South Meade Street in Wilkes-Barre. On completion of his two years as a stock clerk for the Grand Union Tea Company, he was given a sales route where he promoted excellent sales for the company for the next

six years until 1943.

Clifford Thacher was inducted into the U.S. Military service at Wilkes-Barre, on December 29, 1943, and served with the U.S. Army until May 21, 1945. He was first assigned to Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, from January 19th to January 30, 1944, where he was acquainted with army ritual. He received his basic military training at Camp Blanding, Florida, until April 30, 1944, and at Camp Hancock, Virginia, until June 30, 1944.

On July 1, 1944, his company, O, departed from Virginia on the U.S.S. Squire for Italy. They landed there on July 7, 1944, and were immediately assigned to the 5th Army, and occupational duty outside of Naples, Italy. They remained there until August 15, 1944. Clifford was then assigned to the 7th Army, then actively engaged in the invasion of southern France. It was during this campaign that he spent many nites in fox holes almost filled with water. Along with others, he contracted a serious case of Trench Feet as a result, and was hospitalized. After spending time in several army field hospitals in France, he was ordered to the United States for further treatment.

On December 9, 1944, Clifford left Marseille, France, for Boston Massachusetts, U.S.A. on the hospital ship Mariposa (a luxury ship). They arrived in Boston on December 21, 1944. After 25 days of treatment in the Boston hospital, he was ordered sent to the Mayo General Hospital at Galesburg, Illinois, on January 15, 1945, for further treatment. He received advanced medical treatment here for five months, and on May 21, 1945, he was given a medical discharge. He was honorably discharged and mustered out of the Army, from the Mayo General Hospital, under medical disability by Lt. Col. J. W. Bowers, executive officer of Company E. 7th Infantry, A.P.O. 3rd Division.

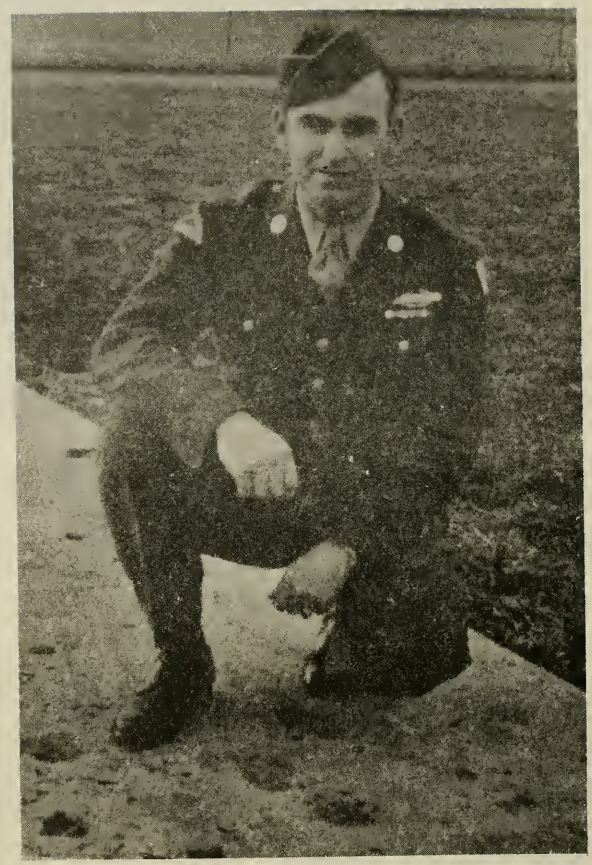
During Clifford's active military service he received recognition for his Germany Campaign, and was presented with a EAME Ribbon, Presidential Citiation, and an Infantry Combat Badge. After his legs recovered sufficiently to walk he returned to his job with the Grand Union Tea Company.

In 1948 Clifford Thacher was promoted to District Sales Manager of the Grand Union Tea Company's Scranton, Pennsylvania Area. In 1955 after seven years of outstanding sales developments in the Scranton Area, and much recognition by the company, he was assigned to the Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Area, and after developing the Lancaster Williamsport Area he returned to the Wilkes-Barre Area in 1958. In 1963 he was promoted to Area Manager of the Grand Union's Triple S Stamp sales at Binghamton, New York, a position he continues to hold in the Grand Union Tea Company, 1972.

Clifford James[11] Thacher, left
and brothers, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
Merlyn James[11], front
Sheldon William[11], right
Elwood James[11], rear
1921

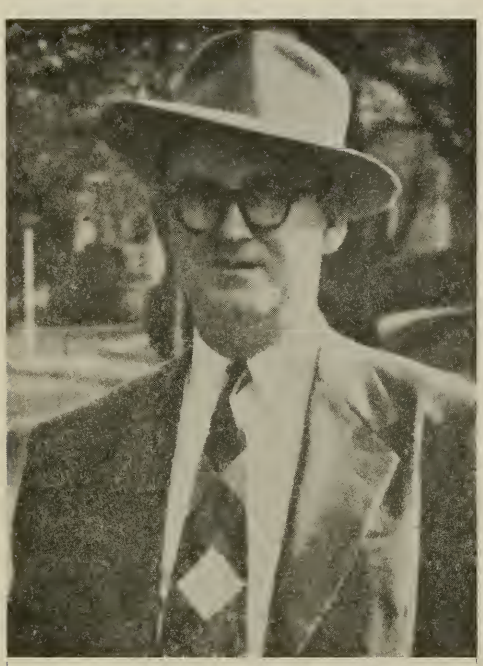
Clifford James[11] Thacher
1933

Clifford James[11] Thacher
holding
Carol Ann[12] Thacher
1937



Clifford James[11] Thacher
United States Military Service
Italy and France
1945

Clifford James[11] Thacher
1914 -



Scranton, Pennsylvania
1951

Wilkes-Barre
Pennsylvania
1960

Fishing Expendition
Deer Horn Lodge, Quebec, Canada
Clifford James Thacher, right, Ray Evans, William Esser, Elwood James Thacher, Dan Henning
1969

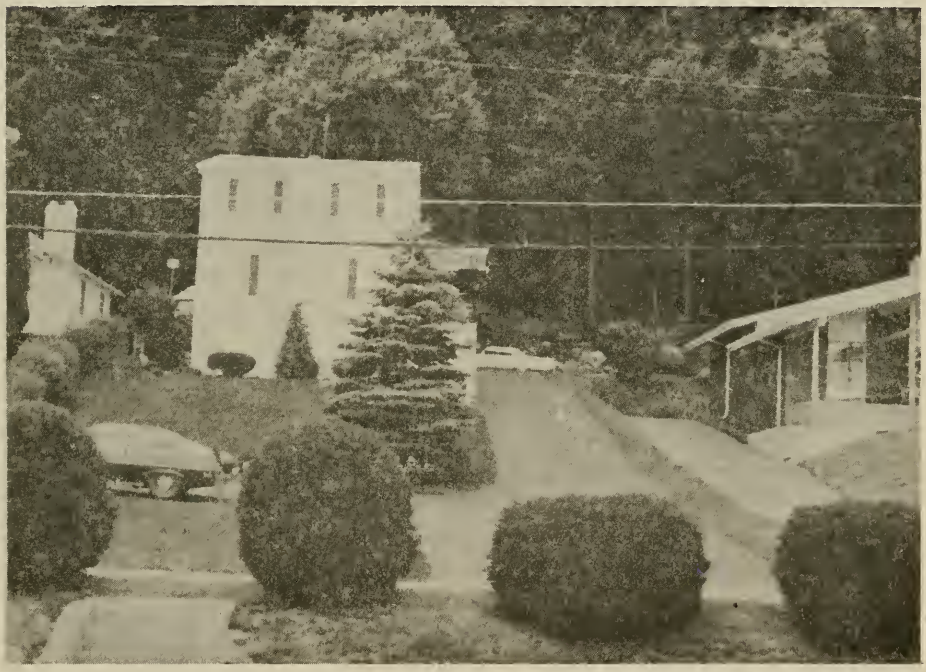
Merlyn James[11] Thacher
1918 -
1969

61 MERLYN JAMES[11] THACHER (William Peter[10], James
51 Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev. Peter[5], Rev.
Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2], Rev. Peter[1])
born Monday, January 21, 1918, at Wilkes-
Barre, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania, and Chicago, Illinois; during
the summer he lives at Harveys Lake, Luzerne
County, Pennsylvania, 1972; he was a terri-
tory Merchandise Manager for floor covering,
in the eastern territory, for Sears,
Roebuck Company, with headquarters in Phila-
delphis, Pennsylvania; he lives in Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania, 1972.[11] Merlyn James Thacher
married Kathryn Eleanor Wenner of Drums,
Pennsylvania, on Monday, August 28, 1939.
The Rev. Theodore C_____ Hesson, minis-
ter of the St. Johns Reformed Church, in St.
Johns, Pennsylvania, performed the ceremony;
Kathryn Wenner was born in Drums, Luzerne
County, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday, July 15,
1914; she died at _____ on _____
_____; living with her husband in Pitts-
burgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, 1972;
her place of residence before marriage was
Drums, Pennsylvania; she was a daughter of
Herbert Claud Wenner, and of his wife Verna
Catherine (Walp) Wenner of Drums, Pennsyl-
vania; they resided in Drums; Herbert C.
Wenner was a Supervisory Principal of Butler
Township Schools for twenty-five years; he
was also a member of the Butler Township
High School Staff (the high school has been
abandoned for many years, and the students
travel to the Hazelton High School); he was
born on Monday, October 20, 1884, and lived
at Drums, Pennsylvania; he died at Drums on
Friday, July 25, 1952 and was burried in the
St. Johns Cemetery at St. Johns, Pennsyl-
vania; Verna Walp Wenner, his wife, was born
at Drums, Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, November
4, 1890; she lives at Drums, Pennsylvania,
1972; Herbert C. Wenner and Verna Catherine
Walp were married at Philadelphia, Phila-
delphia County, Pennsylvania, on _____
_____ 1909, by Rev. _____ of the

_____ Church. They resided in Drums, Pennsylvania.

Children: 1 (Thacher) 1 son

LEONARD JAMES[12] 81
born Thursday, September 2, 1948, at Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania; married Ginny Scyphers.



Home of Merlyn James[11] Thacher
Harveys Lake, Pennsylvania
1978

MERLYN JAMES[11] THACHER was born on Monday, January 21, 1918, in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, where he lived for 34 years. He began his grammar school education at the Hillard Grove School (now the Mackin School) in Wilkes-Barre's east end section. He was later assigned to the North Street School, and then later to the Union Street School, in Wilkes-Barre's Central City, where he completed his grammar school work. In 1931 he entered the Coughlin High School and studied business. He graduated in 1935, and immediately joined the Home Furnishing Company of Wilkes-Barre, as a bookkeeper, training later as a salesman and assistant to the manager. In March of 1937, he joined the Sears, Roebuck Company in Wilkes-Barre as a furniture salesman. A year later he was appointed manager of the electrical fixtures and wiring supplies division. A position he retained for four years.

In the fall of 1939 Merlyn Thacher married Kathryn Eleanor Wenner, a school teacher at Drums, Pennsylvania. They were married by Rev. Theodore C. Hesson at the St. Johns Reformed Church in St. Johns, Pennsylvania, on Monday, August 28, 1939. They resided in Wilkes-Barre after their marriage.

In 1942 Merlyn Thacher was appointed division manager of floor coverings at Sears, Roebuck Company's Wilkes-Barre store, and served in this capacity until November of 1943, when he was inducted into the military service of the United States Army. He received his basic training at Camp Barkley, Texas, and Camp Livingston, Alexandria, Louisiana. He served with the 98th Infantry Division and the 35th Infantry Regiment of the 25th Infantry Division in the Pacific Area. He was transferred from service in Japan to _____ in the United States, where

he was honorably discharged as a first sargeant on April 26, 1946. Merlyn Thacher returned to Sears, Roebuck Company after his discharge from the military service and was immediately appointed to his position of division manager of floor coverings in their Wilkes-Barre store, the position he held before he left to serve his country during the second world war in 1943. He resided at 45 Hillard Street, in Wilkes-Barre after his return from service. His son Leonard James[12] was born on Thursday, September 2, 1948, during his residence here.

In 1948 Merlyn Thacher became the manager of the furniture division of Sears' Wilkes-Barre store, and two years later he was appointed specialty manager of the major appliances and home building materials, a position he retained for two years.

In 1950 he was promoted to Specialty Sales and Merchandising manager of home furnishing at Sears Roebuck Company's Trenton, New Jersey, store. He moved his family from Wilkes-Barre to Yardley, Pennsylvania, when he was transferred to the Trenton store in 1952. During the fall of this same year he was reassigned and promoted to Sears' parent Buying and Merchandising Department in Chicago, Illinois, as assistant National Retail Sales Manager for floor coverings, a position responsible for advertising and sales promotion. Shortly afterwards, he moved his family from Yardley, Pennsylvania, and established his new residence at Glen Ellyn, Illinois, where he lived for the following seven years. During the interium between 1952 and 1959 at Sears' Chicago Main Office, he was twice assigned responsible positions: first, as a National Mail Order Sales Manager for floor coverings in 1955, and second, as a Mail Order Merchandising Manager for all

home furnishings.

In December of 1959, Merlyn Thacher was appointed Territory Merchandising Manager for floor coverings in the eastern territory with headquarters in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was assigned the Pittsburgh Area in 1970, and is currently staioned there, 1972. He moved his family east from Glen Ellyn, Illinois, in 1959, and settled in Rydal, Pennsylvania, where he lived during the next six years. In 1965 he sold his home at Rydal and moved to the 7900 Stenton Avenue apartments in the Chestnut Hill Village section of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1970 he removed from Philadelphia to Pittsburg , Pennsylvania, where he lived during the winter months. During the summer he lives at Harveys Lake, Pennsylvania (1979).

Merlyn Thacher a member of the Methodist church from his youth, and throughout his active career, first joined the Bennett Memorial Methodist church in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. In 1953 he and his family transferred to the Glen Ellyn Methodist church at Glen Ellyn, Illinois, where he served as president of Methodist men. He transferred his membership from Glen Ellyn to the Jenkintown Methodist church in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania, in 1959. He was a member of this church in 1969.

In January of 1973, Merlyn Thacher retired from Sears Roebuck and Company.

64 WILLIAM ANTHONY[12] THACHER (William Wallace[11], Ralph
54 Webb[10], James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Peter[5],
Rev. Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2], Rev. Peter)[1]
born Tuesday, March 4, 1947, at Binghamton,
New York; he resided at Binghamton, Johnson City,
Horseheads, and Frewsburg, New York; he was a
salesman; he married Saturday, July 20, 1968,
to Helen Maheffey, born January 3, 1942.

Children: 2 (Thacher) 1 son, 1 daughter, 1975.

BRETT WILLIAM[13] 1202
born Wednesday, December 20, 1972, at Jamestown,
New York

JODI LYNN[13] 1203
born Thursday, October 9, 1975, at Syracuse,
New York.

WILLIAM ANTHONY[12] THACHER
1947 -
1962

1966

Lorraine Louise[12] Thacher
1930-
1948

65 LORRAINE LOUISE[12] THACHER (Leon Webb[11], Ralph
55 Webb[10], James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev.
Peter[5], Rev. Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2],
Rev. Peter[1]) born Friday, December 26, 1930
at Brooklyn, Kings County, New York; baptized at St. Marks Methodist Episcopal
Church in Brooklyn on Tuesday May 19, 1931;
she resided at Brooklyn and attended the St.
Jerome and Bishop McDonnel Schools; she
lives at 526 E. 29th Street, Brooklyn, New
York (1973); she married Robert Gerard Paul
of Brooklyn, New York, on Saturday, October
7, 1950, Rev. T. F. Connally of the Holy
Cross Church in Brooklyn, performed the
ceremony. Robert Paul was born in Brooklyn
on Monday, November 26, 1928; his place of
residence before marriage was Brooklyn; he
was a son of Joseph Paul and of his wife
Elizabeth Henry Paul of Brooklyn, New York.
Joseph Paul was a manager of wholesale parts
for the Koeppel Chrysler-Plymouth Company of
Jamaica, Queens, New York; he was born at
Brooklyn on Monday, February 11, 1901.
Joseph Paul and Elizabeth Veronica Henry
were married at the St. Francis of Assisi
Church in Brooklyn on Sunday, July 18, 1920,
by the Rev. Father Francis X. Ludeke. They
resided at 526 E. 29th Street, Brooklyn, New
York (1973).

Children: 7 (Paul) 3 sons, 4 daughters
(Not in Thacher line)

LORRAINE LOUISE PAUL
born Sunday, September 30, 1951 at Brooklyn,
New York; married Thomas M. Stokes of
Brooklyn, April 26, 1969, at St. Jerome's
Church, Brooklyn, Rev. Gerald Gallagher performed the ceremony. Lorraine and Thomas
Stokes had two children: Thomas Gallagher,
two years old and Catherine Gallagher, one
year old, 1973.

MAUREEN ELIZABETH PAUL
born Thursday, September 17, 1953, at Brooklyn, New York; married Arthur Pearlman May , 1973.

ROBERT GERARD PAUL
born Thursday, September 8, 1955, at Brooklyn, New York; living 526 E. 29th Street, Brooklyn, New York, 1973.

RICHARD JOSEPH PAUL
born Tuesday, September 4, 1956, at Brooklyn, New York; living 526 E. 29th Street, Brooklyn, New York, 1973.

MARY ANN PAUL
born Saturday, April 2, 1960, at Brooklyn, New York; living 526 E. 29th Street, Brooklyn, New York, 1973.

JOHN GREGORY PAUL
born Friday, May 18, 1962, at Brooklyn, New York; living 526 E. 29th Street, Brooklyn, New York, 1973.

MARGARET ANN PAUL
born Wednesday, December 13, 1967, at Brooklyn, New York; living 526 E. 29th Street, Brooklyn, New York, 1973.

Peter[1] Thacher
1545 - 1624

Peter[2] Thacher
1587 - 1640

Thomas[3] Thacher
1620 - 1678

Ralph[4] Thacher
1648 - 1733

Peter[5] Thacher
1686 - 1766

John[6] Thacher
1739 - 1805

Peter[7] Thacher
1770 - 1849

Peter[8] Thacher
1808 - 1888

James Peter[9] Thacher
1849 - 1920

William Peter[10] Thacher
1885 - 1971

66 NATALIE JOAN[12] THACHER (Leon Webb[11], Ralph Webb[10],
55 James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev. Peter[5],
Rev. Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2], Rev.
Peter[1]) born Monday, October 23, 1933, at
Brooklyn, New York; baptized at St. Joseph's
Episcopal Church, Queen Village, New York,
Sunday, December 26, 1948; she resided at
Brooklyn, New York; living 1310 Nostrand
Avenue; married Frank Cavalone, Saturday,
November 22, 1952. He was born in Brooklyn
on Monday, October 13, 1924; his place of
residence before marriage was Brooklyn; he
was a son of Dominick Cavalone and his wife
Antoinette Cavalone of Brooklyn.
Dominick Cavalone was born in Italy in 1899.
His wife Antoinette was born in Brooklyn.

Children: 6 (Cavalone) 3 sons and 3
daughters
(Not in Thacher line)

LINDA CAVALONE
born Sunday, September 6, 1953, at Brooklyn,
New York; baptized Lenox Road Baptish Church
by Rev. Dr. Baker; living 1310 Nostrand Ave-
nue, Brooklyn, New York, 1968.

WILLIAM CAVALONE
born Wednesday, August 25, 1954, at Brooklyn,
New York; baptized Lenox Road Baptish Church
by Rev. Dr. Baker; living 1310 Nostrand
Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, 1968.

PHILIP CAVALONE
born Sunday, October 30, 1955, at Brooklyn,
New York; baptized Lenox Road Baptish Church
by Rev. Dr. Baker; living 1310 Nostrand
Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, 1968.

DOROTHY CAVALONE
born Tuesday, January 15, 1957, at Brooklyn,

New York; baptized Lenox Road Baptish Church by Rev. Dr. Baker; living 1310 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, 1968.

MARK CAVALONE
born Sunday, May 3, 1964, at Brooklyn, New York; baptized Lenox Road Baptish Church by Rev. Blosat; living 1310 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, 1968.

SUZANNE CAVALONE
born at Brooklyn, New York; baptized Lenox Road Baptist Church by Rev. Blosat; living 1310 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, 1968.

William Peter[12] Thacher
1937-
1968

74 WILLIAM PETER[12] THACHER (Elwood James[11], William
58 Peter[10], James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev.
Peter[5], Rev. Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2],
Rev. Peter[1]) born Wednesday, March 3, 1937 at
Scranton, Pennsylvania; he resided at
Scranton, Pennsylvania, Arlington, Virginia,
Washington, D.C., Miami, Florida and
Frederick, Maryland; he was a bridge
engineer and surveyor for the Florida State
Highway, Wright Construction Company,
Georgia, and Gilbane Construction Company,
Baltimore, Maryland; he graduated from the
Washington-Lee High School in Arlington,
Virginia, in June, 1955, and was admitted to
the George Washington University School of
Engineering in September of 1955; he com-
pleted his freshman year in June of 1956,
and entered the military service, U.S. Marine
Corp. in September of 1956; he served with
the Marine Air Support Squadron 1, Marine
Wing Headquarters Group, 2nd Marine Aircraft
Wing, and the Marine Corps Air Station,
Cherry Point, North Carolina, he was honor-
ably discharged on September 17, 1958; he
lives in Lewiston, Maryland (1979). William
Peter[12] Thacher married Helen Janet Lukens on
Saturday, October 24, 1959 at the Advocate
Evangelical Luthern Church, Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania. The Rev. Malcolm Eichner
performed the ceremony. Janet Lukens was
born in Philadelphia on Tuesday, June 30,
1936; her place of residence before marriage
was Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C.; she
was a daughter of Wilmer Bailey Lukens and
of his wife Helen Keck Lukens of Philadel-
phia; Wilmer Lukens was Secretary-Treasurer
of the Advance Baking Company of Philadel-
phia; he was born on July 17, 1907, at
Philadelphia; Helen Apolonia Keck Lukens was
born February 11, 1906, at Philadelphia.
Wilmer Lukens and Helen Keck were married at
Valley Forge Chapel, Valley Forge, Pennsyl-

vania on June 2, 1934. They resided in Philadelphia, 1973.

Children: 2 (Thacher) 2 sons

WILLIAM CRAIG[13] 82
born Saturday, February 6, 1960 in Miami, Florida; baptized April 13, 1960 in St. Mark's Luthern Church, Miami, Florida by Rev. G. Williams. Living at Lewiston, Maryland, 1979.

JEFFREY LUKENS[13] 318
born Friday, September 21, 1962, at Alexandria, Virginia; baptized November 22, 1962, in Advocate Evangelical Luthern Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by Rev. Malcolm Eichner. Living at Lewistown, Maryland, 1979.

William Peter[12] Thacher

1937

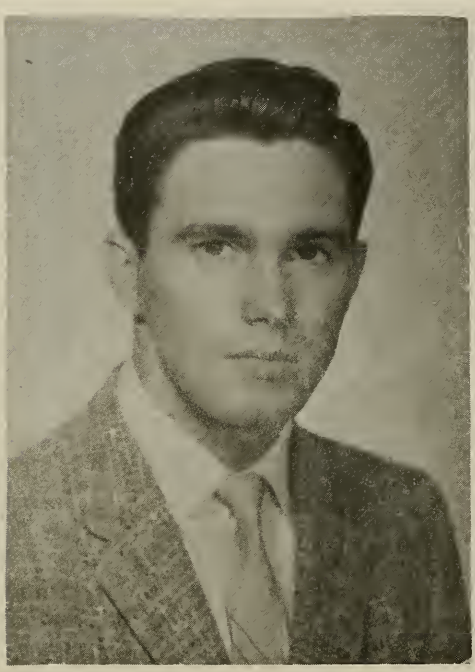
1947

1940

1955

William Peter[12] Thacher, accordion
Elwood James[12] Thacher, Jr., violin
U.S. Geological Survey
Arlington, Virginia
1948

12
William Peter Thacher (T)
United States Marine Corp
Paris Island, South Carolina
1956



Elwood James[12] Thacher
1939 -
Wakefield High School
Arlington, Virginia
1957

Elwood James[12] Thacher, right
and his brother
William Peter[12] Thacher
Lantz, Maryland
1967

75 ELWOOD JAMES[12] THACHER, Jr. (Elwood James[11]
58 William Peter[10], James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev. Peter[5], Rev. Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2], Rev. Peter[1]) born Sunday, February 5, 1939 at Scranton, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania; he resided at Scranton, Pennsylvania; Arlington, Virginia, Washington, D.C., Miami, Florida, and Frederick, Maryland; he was engaged in Motor Freight, Long Distance Express Freight, and Terminal Freight Dispatcher for the Thompson Express Company in Arlington, Virginia, and the Baltimore and Pittsburg Motor Freight Company in Frederick, Maryland; he graduated from the Thomas Jefferson High School, Arlington, Virginia, June 19, 1956; he studied at the University of Virginia, Arlington, Virginia, for a year and the Ferum Methodist Junior College at Rocky Mount, North Carolina, the following year; he entered the military service on October 3, 1962 and served in the 2nd U.S. Army, 585 Engineer Company. He was honorably discharged on October 2, 1964; he lives in Frederick, Maryland, 1978.

Elwood James[12] Thacher, Jr., married Patricia Lynne Schultze of Frederick, Maryland, on Saturday, May 23, 1970. The Rev. Father John Becker priest of the Saint John Catholic Church in Frederick, Maryland, performed the ceremony; Patricia Schultze was born in Brooklyn, New York, on Saturday, February 1, 1947; living in Frederick, Maryland, (1978); her place of residence before marriage was New York City, New York, and Frederick, Maryland; she was a daughter of Henry Grodon Schultze, and of his wife Eileen Coffey Schultze of Frederick, Maryland. Henry Schultze was a Manager for the Fairchild Industries of Hagerstown, Maryland; he was born at Brooklyn, New York, Thursday,

September 2, 1920; Eileen Coffey Schultze, his wife, was born at Fairhaven, Massachusetts, Tuesday, April 8, 1919; Henry Gordon Schultze and Eileen Coffey were married at Brooklyn, New York Saturday, February 8, 1941, by the Rev. Father Mortimer J. Gleason of the Good Sheppard Roman Catholic Church. They resided in Brooklyn, New York and Frederick, Maryland, 1978.

Children: 2 (Thacher) 2 daughters, 1978.

CHERYL ANN[13] 1143
born Saturday, March 11, 1972 in Frederick County, Maryland; baptized Sunday, April 2, 1972, in St. John's Catholic Church, Frederick, Maryland by Rev. Father Phillips.

DEBORAH LEIGH[13] 1201
born Thursday, October 25, 1973 in Frederick County, Maryland.

Elwood James[12] Thacher
1939-
1940

Elwood James[12] Thacher
Christmas Party
U.S.G.S.
1948

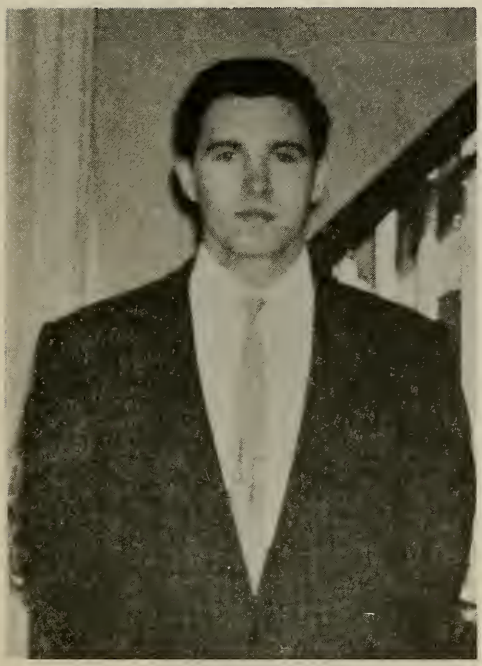
Elwood James[12] Thacher
1939 -

Elwood James[12], front, and William Peter[12], rear
Arlington, Virginia
1944

Elwood James[12] (Jim)
Arlington, Virginia
1951

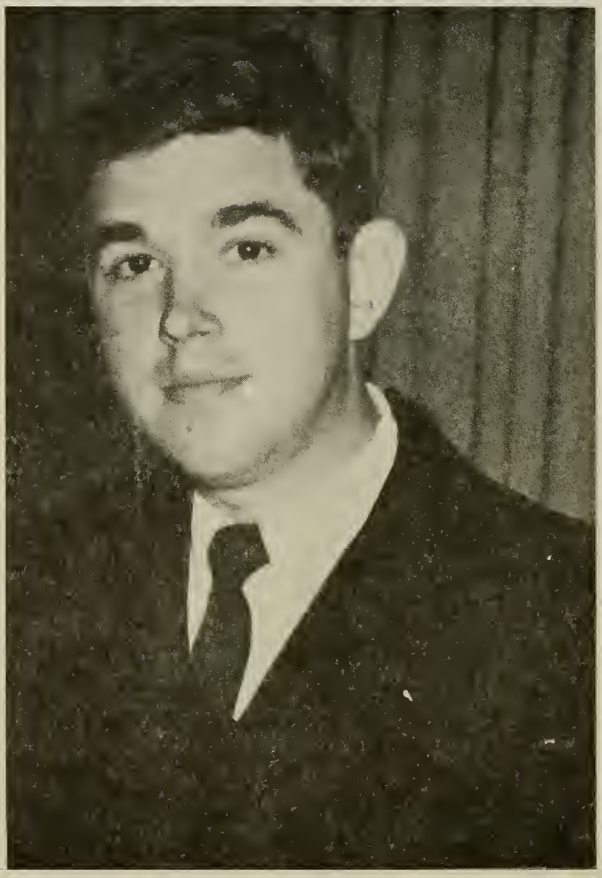
Elwood James[12] Thacher
Wakefield High School
1956

Elwood James[12] (Jim) Thacher
1939 -



Arlington, Virginia
1961

Lantz, Maryland
1968



Thomas Wayne[12] Thacher
1945-
1970

76 THOMAS WAYNE[12] THACHER (Elwood James[11], William
58 Peter[10], James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev.
Peter[5], Rev. Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2],
Rev. Peter[1]) born Friday, July 6, 1945, at
Arlington, Virginia; he resided at Arlington,
Virginia; he was a navigational officer in
the United States Navy Oceonographic
Development Squadron Eight, based at
Patuxent Naval Air Station at Patuxent River,
Maryland; in 1972 he was reassigned to
electronic computer programming and data
processing, Navy Department, Washington,
D.C.; he graduated from Wakefield High
School in June, 1964, and Virginia Common-
wealth University Richmond, Virginia in 1968;
he graduated from the Naval Aviation Schools
Command, Naval Air Station, Pennsacola,
Florida, and received his commission as an
Ensign United States Navy July 6, 1969; he
graduated from the Navy's advanced air
training school at Naval Air Station, Corpus
Christi, Texas and received his flight
officer's gold wings on Friday, February 20,
1970; Thomas Wayne[12] Thacher married Betty Ann
Wilson Sunday, March 31, 1968. The Rev.
Harry W. Backhus 3rd, D. D. minister of the
Arlington Methodist Church, South Glebe
Road at Eighth Street, performed the cere-
mony. Betty Ann Wilson was born in
Washington, D.C. Wednesday, October 2, 1946;
her place of residence before marriage was
Arlington, Virginia. Thomas and Betty
Thacher resided in Franconia, Virginia, 1973.
Betty Ann Wilson was the daughter of Charles
Lewis Wilson and his wife Doris Smith Wilson.
Charles Wilson owned and operated a ladies
fashions and clothing store "Dorbets" at
Baileys Cross Roads Shopping Center,
Arlington, Virginia; he was born in
Washington, D.C. Sunday, June 8, 1919.
Doris Smith Wilson his wife was born in
Washington, D.C., Tuesday, July 4, 1922;

Charles Lewis Wilson and Doris Marie Smith were married at Washington, D.C., Thursday, June 27, 1940. They resided in Arlington, Virginia, 1973; Centerville, Virginia, 1979.

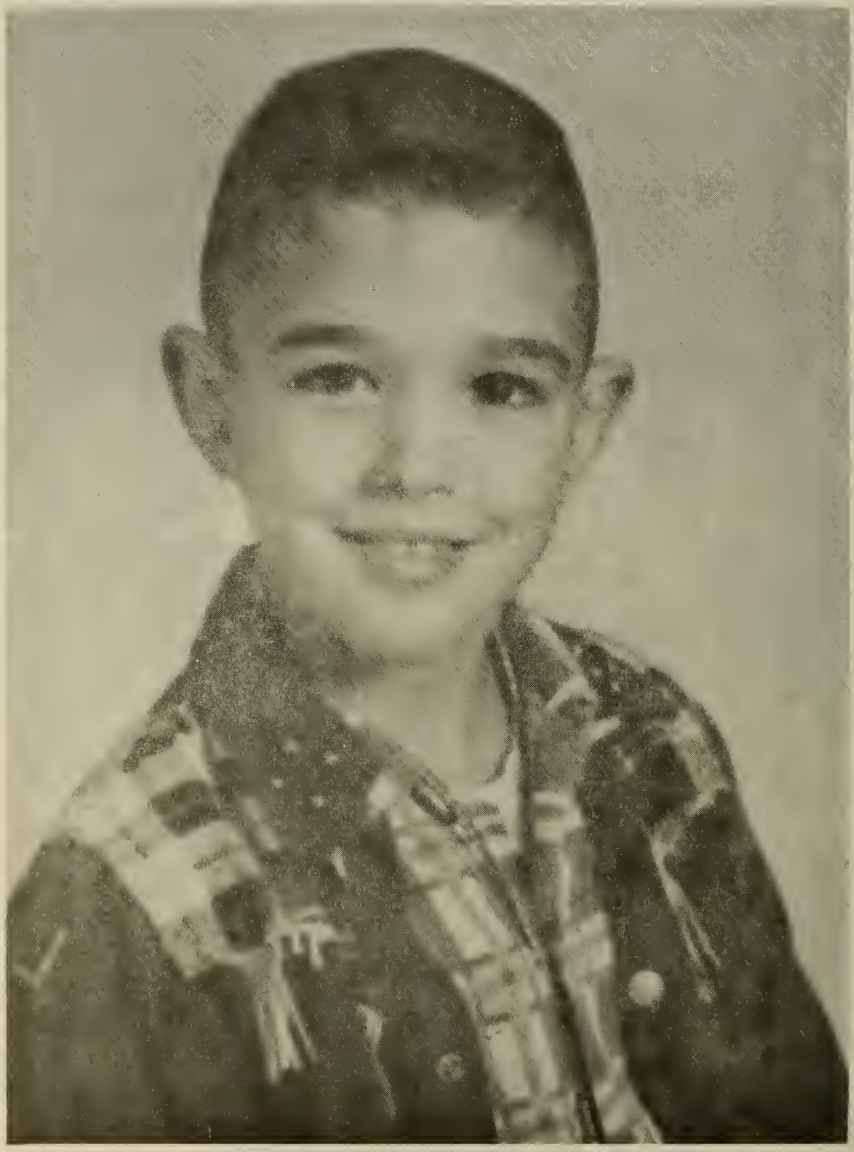
Children: 2 (Thacher) 2 daughters

DONNA MICHELLE[13] 1141
born Saturday, April 18, 1970 at Fairfax Hospital, Virginia; baptized at Arlington Methodist Church, Glebe Road at Eighth Street, by Rev. Harry W. Backhus 3rd, D. D.; living Franconia, Virginia, 1973; Centerville, Virginia, 1979.

SHERRY LYNN[13] 1193
born Tuesday, October 10, 1972 at Fairfax Hospital, Virginia; baptized Sunday, April 15, 1973, at Franconia Methodist Church on Franconia Road by Rev. Alfred L. Eastman; living Franconia, Virginia, 1973; Centerville, Virginia, 1979.

Elwood James[12] Thacher, left
Thomas Wayne[12] Thacher, center
William Peter[12] Thacher, right
Arlington, Virginia
1945

Thomas Wayne[12] Thacher
Arlington, Virginia
1947



Thomas Wayne[12] Thacher
1945 -
1952

Thomas Wayne[12] Thacher
1945 -
As Thomas Jefferson
Fourth Grade Class Play
1955

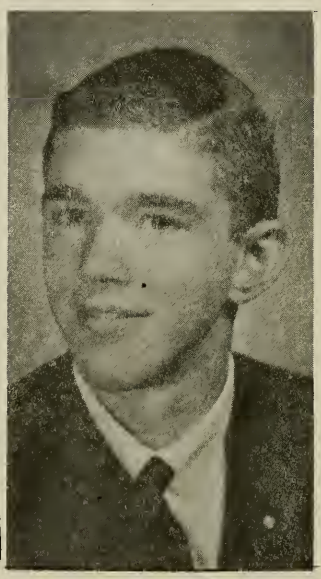
Senior Twice Honored

Tom Thacher, a senior at Wakefield High School in Arlington who is enrolled in the Industrial Cooperative Training Course there, is the proud holder of two state titles as he prepares to graduate in June. He has been president this year of the Diversified Occupations Club at Wakefield.

Tom was named Diversified Occupations Student of the Year for all of Virginia at a state convention held in Williamsburg.

Then he topped that honor with another. He was chosen King of Diversified Occupation students in Virginia. This means that the 300 teenagers at the convention considered Tom to have the most poise and personality, to have the best general appearance and to be the best dancer.

But Tom is not as concerned with social affairs as much as with more serious pursuits. As a student enrolled in Industrial Cooperative Training, he attends school each morning and works each afternoon at Kell's Typewriter Service. He has learned a good deal about the typewriter business this year and hopes, some day, to manage or own a business. He believes the sound background of knowledge he has



TOM THACHER

obtained in his present work will help him even if he goes into some other field.

Tom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elwood J. Thacher, 128 N. Wakefield St. He has had all his public school education in Arlington, having attended Barrett Elementary School and Kenmore Junior High, before going to Wakefield.

Tom plans to take an introductory course in data processing this summer and then to enroll in college in the fall, working for a degree in Business Administration.

Tom is one of approximately 70 students enrolled at present in Industrial Cooperative Training in Arlington high schools. The course was formerly called Diversified Occupations and this name is still used in the student club.

Teachers who serve as coordinators of the Industrial Cooperative Training Program in Arlington are James E. Stemple at Wakefield High School; Robert J. Seidel at Washington-Lee; and William J. Beale at Yorktown.

The students work as auto mechanics, carpenters and cabinet makers, electricians, film technicians, photographers, optical mechanics, air conditioning mechanics, radio and television repair men, office machine repairers. dental assistants, nurse's aides and beauty operators.

The students earn an average of slightly more than $1 an hour, working part time. The 70 enrolled earned $4,358 in March alone, or an average of about $62 each.

Thomas Wayne[12] Thacher
1945-
1963

OFFICERS

George Washington Chapter
Order of DeMolay

ARLINGTON VIRGINIA

DECEMBER 27, 1963

Master Councilor
Thomas Wayne Thacher — JA 2-4057

Senior Councilor
Michael Craig — 356-5319

Junior Councilor
Charles Zier — JA 2-2920

Senior Deacon—Richard Christiansen
Junior Deacon—James Weeks
Marshal—Daniel Belanger
Chaplain—Philip Bjorlo
Senior Steward—Richard Keener
Junior Steward—Raymond Lecraw
Scribe—Harold Beal
Standard Bearer—John Bernstien
Sentinel—J. Bruce Brown
First Preceptor—Wayne Wisecarver
Second Preceptor—William Beck
Third Preceptor—James Cavanaugh
Fourth Preceptor—Scott Lisagor
Fifth Preceptor—Gary Rulapaugh
Sixth Preceptor—John Henderson
Seventh Preceptor—Nikita Zelensky
Orator—Ronald Cox

NAVAL AIR RESERVE TRAINING UNIT
Naval Air Facility
Washington, D. C. 20390

PRO:RBB:cch
8 DEC 1968

Mr. and Mrs. Elwood J. Thacher
128 North Wakefield Street
Arlington, Virginia 22203

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Thacher:

It was our pleasure to administer the Oath of Allegiance to Thomas, signifying his recent entry into the Naval Service. From here he will be sent to Pensacola, Florida, the "Annapolis of the Air", where he will commence more than twelve months of the finest flight training in the world. His qualification and selection for the program mark him as being head and shoulders above his contemporaries. Among these men are our Naval Leaders of tomorrow.

Part of the very respectable investment to become a graduate of this training began with the processing of his application at this command. Therefore, it is our concern that he successfully complete the course. In this respect previous men from our area have set enviable records. Very few of them have quit from lack of motivation.

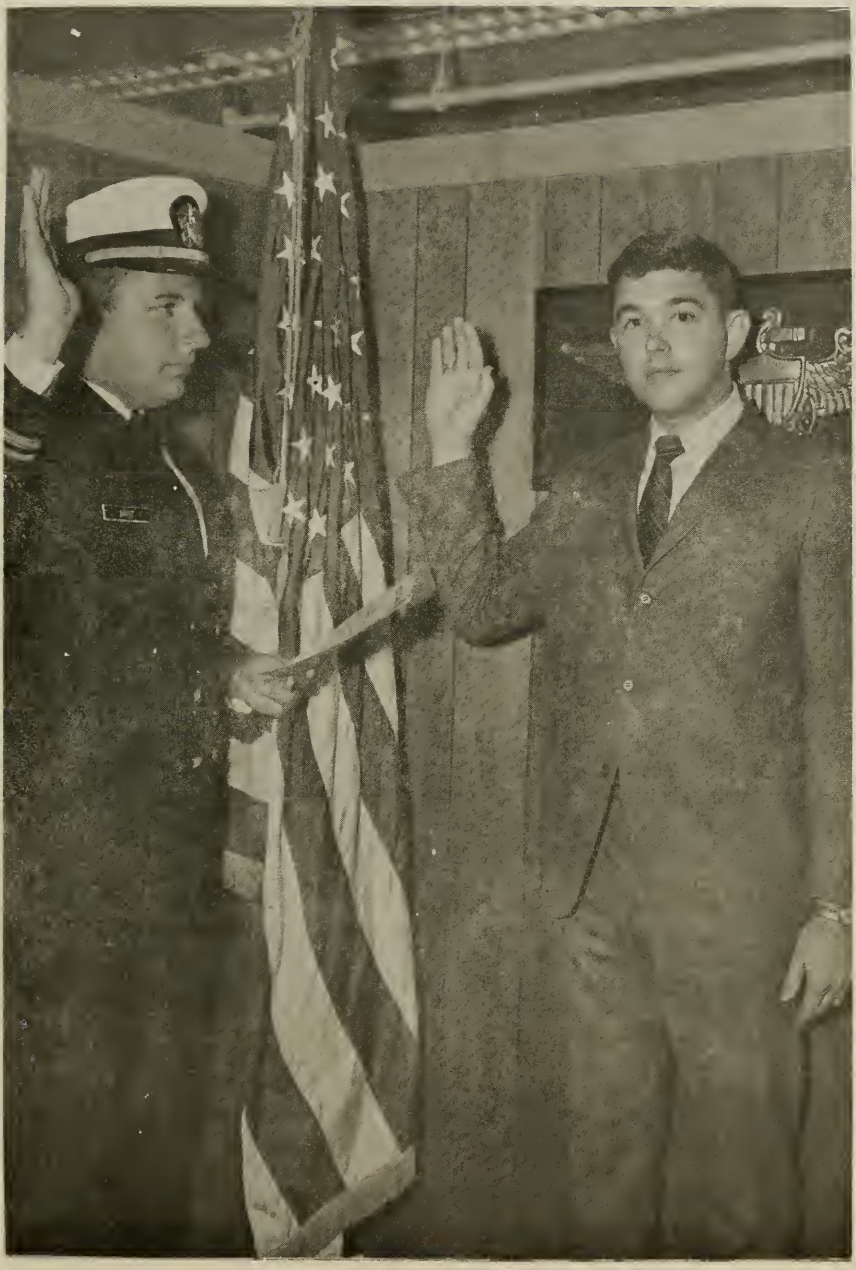
There may be numerous times when Thomas will seriously doubt his ability to win his coveted "Wings of Gold". This reaction is entirely normal since he is taking a stringent course and is engaged in a highly competitive endeavor. However, optimistic letters from you will go a long way toward dispelling these fears and encouraging him to keep trying. You may be assured the Navy is vitally interested in Thomas' successful completion of the course on which he has embarked, and will provide him every assistance in meeting the academic and military standards required.

I am enclosing a photograph for your family album, and again may I congratulate you on Thomas' entry into the United States Navy.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. SOBIEN
Captain, USNR
Commanding Officer

Encl: Photograph



Thomas Wayne[12] Thacher
1945-
1968

NAVAL AVIATION SCHOOLS COMMAND
NAVAL AIR STATION
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA 32508

MAR 3 1969

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Thacher,

It is indeed a pleasure to inform you that your son has recently reported to this command to commence his aviation training in the Navy, a proud and time honored organization, dedicated to preserving the peace and security of our country and our Allies, large and small.

Much of the Navy's prominence today can be attributed to the role played by Naval Aviation. Although Naval Aviation has enjoyed a relatively short history, its leaders and their historic accomplishments are well known to all. Today, officers wearing the "Wings of Gold" hold positions of great responsibility and authority in our Navy.

For your background information about the Naval Aviation Schools Command, all future officers associated with Naval Aviation (about half the total officer strength of the Navy) receive initial aviation training here. Included in this group of officers and officer candidates are: future pilots, naval flight officers, flight surgeons, aviation warrant officers and Allied pilots. Typically, there are about 1000 students on board at any given time.

The aviation training programs at Pensacola are tough and challenging. We believe in the "whole man" concept and stress physical fitness, professional subjects, technical subjects, social activities, as well as military training. Two chaplains are assigned to the staff and ample opportunity is provided for spiritual needs.

The early part of your son's training perhaps will be the most difficult for him. The transition from civilian status into the military life, by necessity, is a sudden one. Correspondence and encouragement fr those back home help tremendously, especially during the first few weeks. Although his days are regimented, there is still time to relax and to correspond with relatives and friends.

Congratulations on your son's choice of the Navy, and particularly Naval Aviation. I know he will have a most rewarding and challenging career ahead of him and I am glad to have him as a member of our team.

If at any time I can be of assistance to you, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,

R. J. MARTIN
Commander, U. S. Navy
Commanding Officer

NAVAL AVIATION SCHOOLS COMMAND
NAVAL AIR STATION
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA 32508

JUL 2 3 1969

Mr. and Mrs. Elwood J. Thacher
5134 Whiterock Avenue
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Thacher,

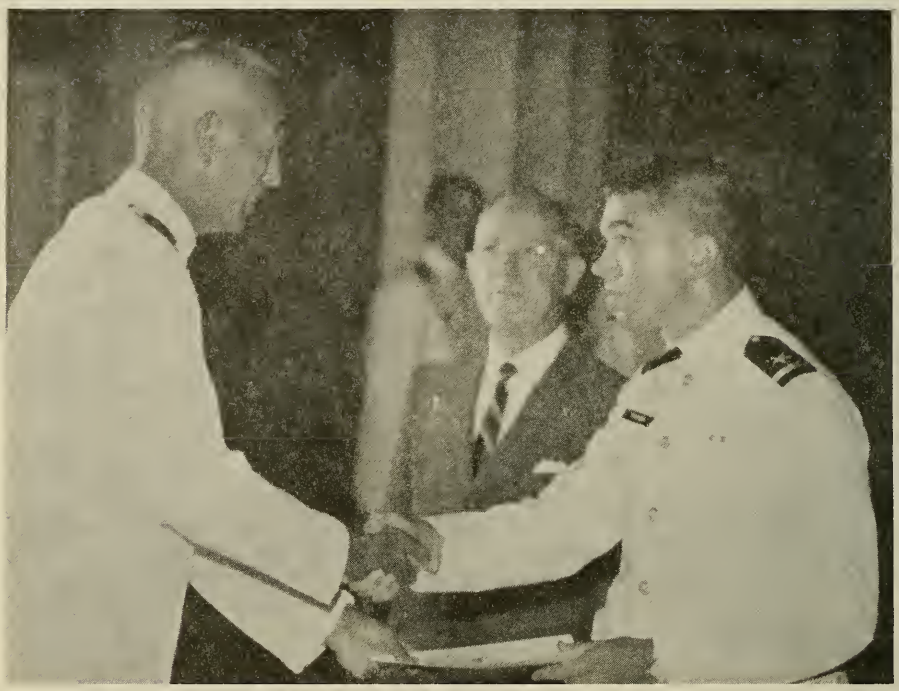
It is my sincere pleasure to write to you on the occasion of your son's graduation from the Naval Aviation Officer Candidate School and his commissioning as an Ensign in the U. S. Naval Reserve.

The course of instruction at the Officer Candidate School is an intensive one, designed to prepare him for the opportunities and challenges of a career in naval aviation. Successful completion of this course required a resolute attitude, a strong sense of moral obligation and devotion to cause. His accomplishment demonstrates possession of the qualities which are necessary to continue his training.

Both you and your son may be justly proud of a job "Well Done." My congratulations and best wishes for his continued success.

Sincerely,

J. H. HARVEY
Captain, U. S. Navy
Commanding Officer



Thomas Wayne[12] Thacher, right, receives his diploma and ensign commission in the United States Navy from Commanding Officer, Captain J. H. Harvey, left, Naval Aviation Schools Command.

Pensacola, Florida
July 6, 1969

Graduating Class

6 July 1969

ENSIGN B. C. ACKER
ENSIGN G. H. ANDREW
ENSIGN S. L. AHLRICH
ENSIGN R. C. BENNETT
ENSIGN D. R. BOWER
ENSIGN J. H. BURKHOLDER
ENSIGN C. E. COOK, JR.
ENSIGN V. R. D'ALESSANDRO, JR.
ENSIGN P. C. DAME
ENSIGN J. A. DIX
ENSIGN J. N. DIXON
ENSIGN R. W. DOORES
ENSIGN C. C. ERTL
ENSIGN J. P. FEELEY, JR.
ENSIGN C. T. GUSS
ENSIGN R. J. HANEY
ENSIGN S. C. HARTLE
ENSIGN R. G. HELSEL
ENSIGN C. L. HENRY
ENSIGN J. G. KAGG
ENSIGN M. G. KELLARD
ENSIGN R. D. KING, III
ENSIGN R. B. KUMMER
ENSIGN G. A. LANGSTON
ENSIGN P. B. MCCUTHEON
ENSIGN C. G. MCELWEE
ENSIGN J. R. METZ
ENSIGN J. A. NEFF
ENSIGN R. L. NELMS
ENSIGN E. O. POST
ENSIGN R. R. REMIS
ENSIGN H. A. RISSIER
ENSIGN J. A. ROSENBACH
ENSIGN J. V. RYAN
ENSIGN F. K. SATORIS
ENSIGN R. A. SCHEDER
ENSIGN G. H. SHELDEN
ENSIGN T. W. SKALLAND
ENSIGN D. L. STONE
ENSIGN M. H. STUDLEY
ENSIGN W. C. STRUTZ
ENSIGN P. F. SWAIN
ENSIGN D. L. SWITZER
ENSIGN T. W. THACHER
ENSIGN W. F. TRACEY
ENSIGN D. W. UNDERWOOI
ENSIGN G. L. WALKER
ENSIGN R. C. WALTERS
ENSIGN R. S. WHITE
ENSIGN G. E. WIDENER
ENSIGN P. J. WILHEIM
ENSIGN D. B. WILLIAMS
ENSIGN J. R. WILSON,
ENSIGN S. L. WYLUDA,
ENSIGN T. J. ZELLERS

CHIEF OF NAVAL AIR ADVANCED TRAINING
NAVAL AIR STATION
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78419

March 2, 1970

Mr. and Mrs. Elwood J. Thacher
5134 Whiterock Avenue
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Thacher:

Your son, Ensign Thomas W. Thacher, USNR, has been designated a Naval Flight Officer, specializing in aerial navigation. It is a pleasure to congratulate you on this occasion. His completion of navigator training is a credit to himself and his family. The demands placed on him required outstanding mental and moral qualities, which are evident in large measure in your son. He has earned his Naval Flight Officer wings, after many months of a lengthy course of study. The skills he has developed soon will be used extensively in his service with the Fleet.

I share your pride in his achievement and feel certain he will make a valuable contribution to the security of our country. His designation as a Naval Flight Officer opens the door to even greater opportunities for a rewarding career.

I am happy to enclose a photograph taken on the day of his designation as we welcomed him into the honored rolls of naval aviation.

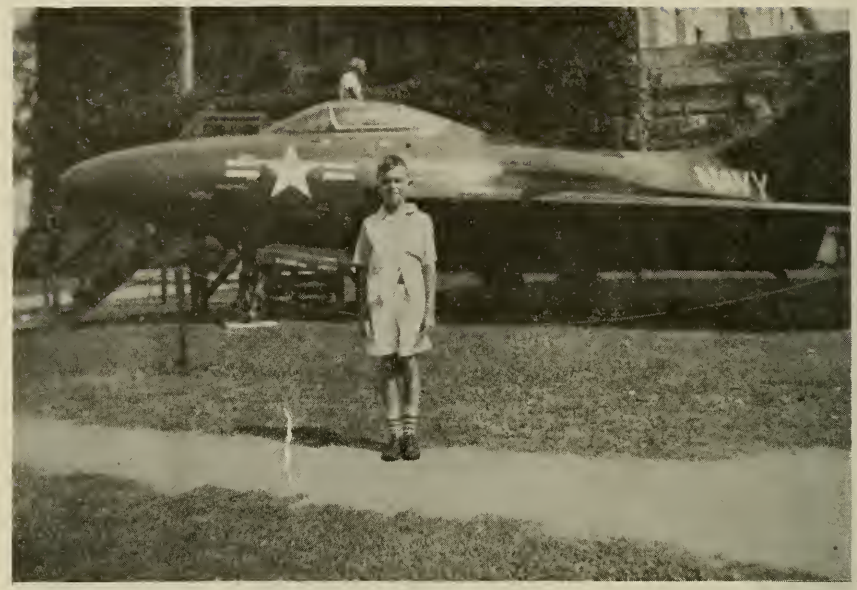
Sincerely,

F. C. TURNER
Rear Admiral
U. S. Navy

Thomas Wayne[12] Thacher
Receives his "Gold Wings"
Naval Flight Officers Ceremonies
Corpus Christie, Texas
February 20th, 1969

Betty Ann Thacher, his wife,
pins the "Gold Wings" on his
uniform after the ceremonies.

Thomas Wayne[12] Thacher
1945 -



Naval Academy
Annapolis, Maryland
1954

Patuxent Naval Air Station
Patuxent River, Maryland
1970

The American University

Incorporated by Act of Congress of The United States of America in 1893

In recognition of the successful completion of the prescribed course of study
and by virtue of authority granted by the Congress of the United States of America
has conferred upon

Thomas Wayne Thacher

the degree of

Master of Science

in Technology of Management

with all the rights, privileges, responsibilities and honors thereunto appertaining.

In Witness Whereof, the seal of the University and the signatures of duly authorized officers are affixed to this diploma. Given in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, this nineteenth day of August, in the year of Our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-seven.

James K. Mathews
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Joseph John Jones
President of the University

A. LeFritschler
Acting Dean of the College of Public Affairs

John Richardson
Director of the Center for Technology and Administration

77 JUNE ELIZABETH[12]THACHER (Sheldon William[11],
59 William Peter[10], etc. see Sheldon William[11]record for progenitors) born Saturday, November 17, 1934, at Upper Darby, Pennsylvania; she resided at Upper Darby and Drexel Hill; living at Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania, 1979; married Kenneth R. Miller, Saturday, October 16, 1954. Rev. Copper of the Mary Sellers Methodist Church, Bywood, Pennsylvania, performed the ceremony. Kenneth Miller was born in Germantown Pennsylvania, Thursday, September 27, 1934; his place of residence before marriage was Germantown; he resided in Philadelphia, 1973; he was a son of Arthur G. Miller who resided in Germantown; he was born in Shomokin, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, November 18, 1908; his wife _____ Miller was born at Boston, Massachusetts, Wednesday, May 18, 1910. They resided in Germantown, Pennsylvania.

No Issue

78 GAIL VALERIE[12]THACHER (Sheldon William[11],
59 William Peter[10], etc. See Sheldon William[11] record for progenitors) born Friday, October 8, 1943 at Upper Darby, Pennsylvania; she resided at Upper Darby, Drexel Hill, and Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania, and New York,

New York; she lives in Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania, 1979; she married first, Lawrence Wilson on Saturday, September 29, 1962; she married second John William Whiteside on Saturday, March 30, 1968. Gail and John Whiteside reside in Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania, 1979.

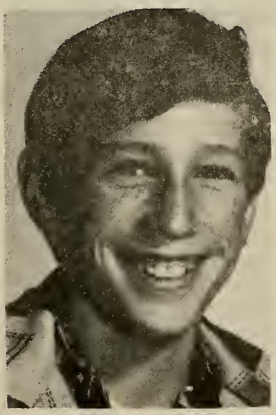
Children: (Not in Thacher line)

LAWRENCE WILLIAM WILSON WHITESIDE
born January 28, 1963, at New York, New York; living Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania, 1979.

RICHARD WILSON WHITESIDE
born July 24, 1964, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; living Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania, 1979.

JOHNNY WHITESIDE
born _____ 1970, Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania; living Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania, 1979.

LAWRENCE



RICHARD

JOHNNY

Carol Ann[12] Thacher
1937-
1965

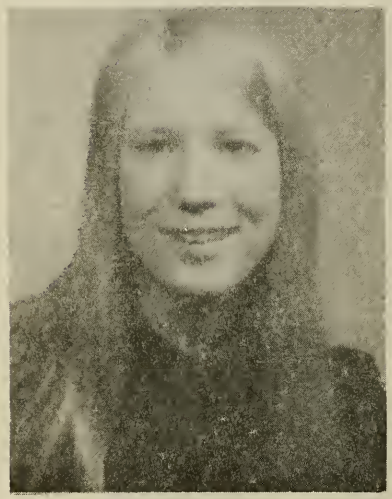
79 CAROL ANN[12] THACHER (Clifford James[11], William
60 Peter[10], James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev. Peter[5], Rev. Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2], Rev. Peter[1]) born Friday, February 5, 1937, at Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania; she resided at Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Lancaster, and Holtwood, Pennsylvania; she married Charles Clifford Ruth, Sunday, April 8, 1956, at the Lancaster Methodist Church. Rev. J. Buzzard performed the ceremony. Charles Ruth was born Tuesday, June 18, 1935, at Ephrata, Pennsylvania; his palce of residence before marriage was Ephrata; he was a production manager for the Buck Iron Company of Quarryville, Pennsylvania; Charles and Carol Ruth reside in Holtwood, Pennsylvania, 1979; he was a son of William J. Ruth and his wife Cora Weidman Ruth of Ephrata, Pennsylvania. William Ruth was born Friday, August 28, 1903, at Vinemont, Pennsylvania, ; his wife Cora was born at Leacock, Pennsylvania, Wednesday, February 21, 1906; she lives at Ephrata, Pennsylvania, 1968. William Ruth and Cora Sweigart Weidman were married at Ephrata, Pennsylvania, Saturday, June 13, 1925, by Rev. Harold Butts of the Hope Evangelical Church. Cora Weidman Ruth married a second time on Monday, December 2, 1946, at Bel Air, Maryland, to Adam Burkholder.

Children: 3 (Ruth) 1 son 2 daughters, 1979
(Not in Thacher line.)

CINDY LEE RUTH
born Tuesday, March 25, 1958, at Lancaster, Pennsylvania; dedicated Sunday, October 19, 1958, by Rev. Arthur Funkhauser of the Faith Calvary Church, Lancaster; living Holtwood, Pennsylvania, 1973.

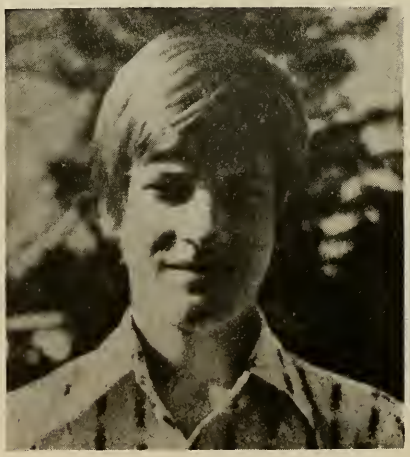
DAWN RENEE RUTH
born Thursday, February 25, 1960, at Lancaster, Pennsylvania; dedicated Sunday, January 8, 1961, by Rev. Arthur Funkhauser of the Faith Calvary Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania; living Holtwood, Pennsylvania, 1973.

CURTIS SCOTT RUTH
born Thursday, October 17, 1963, Lancaster, Pennsylvania; dedicated Sunday, April , 1964, by Harold Feerrar of the Calvary Independent Church, Lancaster; living Holtwood, Pennsylvania, 1973.

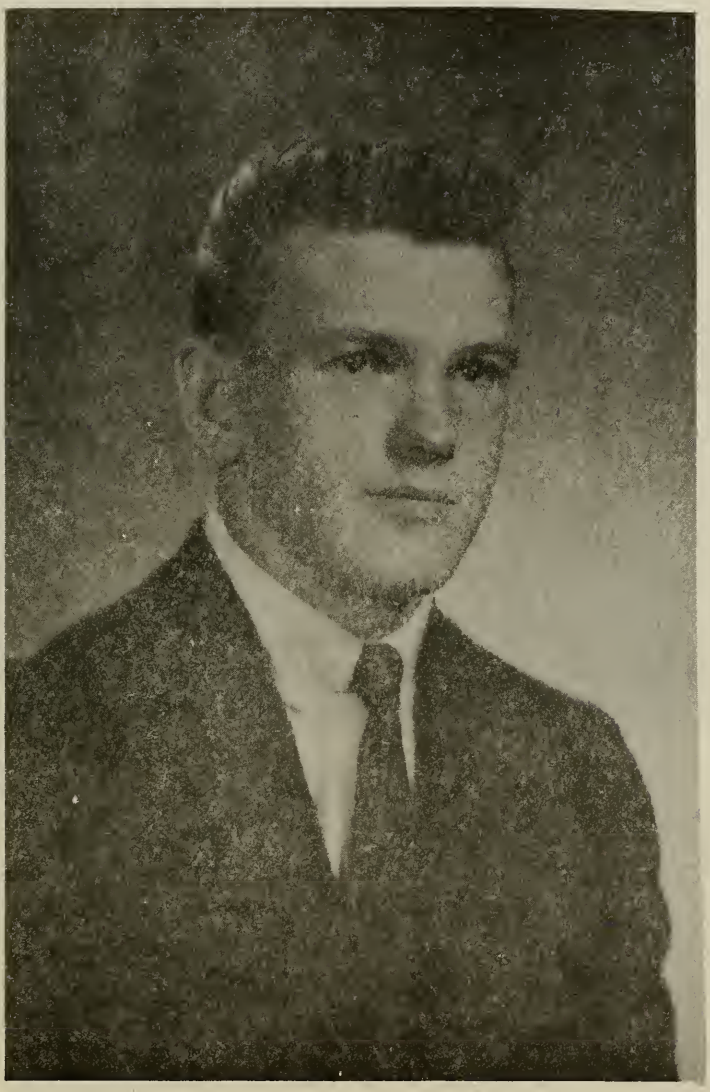


Cindy Ruth, 1976

Dawn Ruth, 1978



Curtis Ruth, 1979



Clifford Samuel[12] Thacher
1943-
1964

—Photo By Lyons

Three students of the Mercy Hospital School of X-ray Technology will be graduated at the eighth annual commencement exercises to be held in conjunction with the 63rd annual graduation of the hospital's School of Nursing on Tuesday, May 21, at 8 p. m. at Meyers High School.

Graduates shown above, left to right, are: Miss Bernadine Christine Botsko, 114 Ashley street, Ashley; Clifford Samuel Thacher, 65 South Meade street, city, and Miss Carol Mae Connell, 902 Kosciuszko street, Nanticoke.

Mr. Thacher will be the first male X-ray technician to be graduated from the Mercy Hospital school.

The X-ray technologists have completed two years of training under a certified radiologist and the course carries college approval and credits. The graduate technologists will take the State Board examinations which are held in May and November of each year. Sister Mary Francis, R.S.M., is director of the school.

The technicians are among 50 students who will be presented diplomas by Most Rev. Jerome D. Hannan, D.D., Bishop of Scranton. Judge Bernard C. Brominski will be the principal speaker.

Students and their parents will be entertained at a breakfast Tuesday morning at Hotel Redington following a Baccalaureate Mass at 9 a. m. in St. Aloysius Church.

12
Clifford Samuel Thacher, center
1963

80 CLIFFORD SAMUEL[12] THACHER (Clifford[11] James,[10]
60 William Peter,[9] James Peter,[8] Peter,[7] Peter,[6]
John,[5] Rev. Peter,[4] Rev. Ralph,[3] Rev. Thomas,[2]
Rev. Peter,[1] Rev. Peter) born Wednesday, May 19, 1943, at Kingston, Pennsylvania; he resided at Kingston, Wilkes-Barre, and Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, and Binghamton, New York; he was a Radiologic Technologist at the Barnes-Kassen hospital Susquehanna, Pennsylvania; he graduated from the Mercy Hospital Radiologic School, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, May 21, 1963, and was certified and registered at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; he was a graduate of G.A.R. High School, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, 1961; he married Marlene Anne Mack Saturday, April 11, 1964. Rev. Adonizio priest of the St. Francis Roman Catholic Church performed the ceremony. Clifford and Marlene Thacher reside in Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, 1979. Marlene Mack was born in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania, Thursday, December 23, 1943; her place of residence before marriage was Nanticoke, Pennsylvania; she was a daughter of John Joseph Mack and his wife Julia Curtis Mack of Nanticoke. John Mack was born at Nanticoke in 1920; he died at Nanticoke, Thursday, December 17, 1953, and was buried in the St. Francis Cemetery, Nanticoke, Pennsylvania. Julia Curtis Mack, was born Thursday, June 14, 1923; she lives in Nanticoke, 1972. John Mack and Julia Elizabeth Curtis were married in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania.

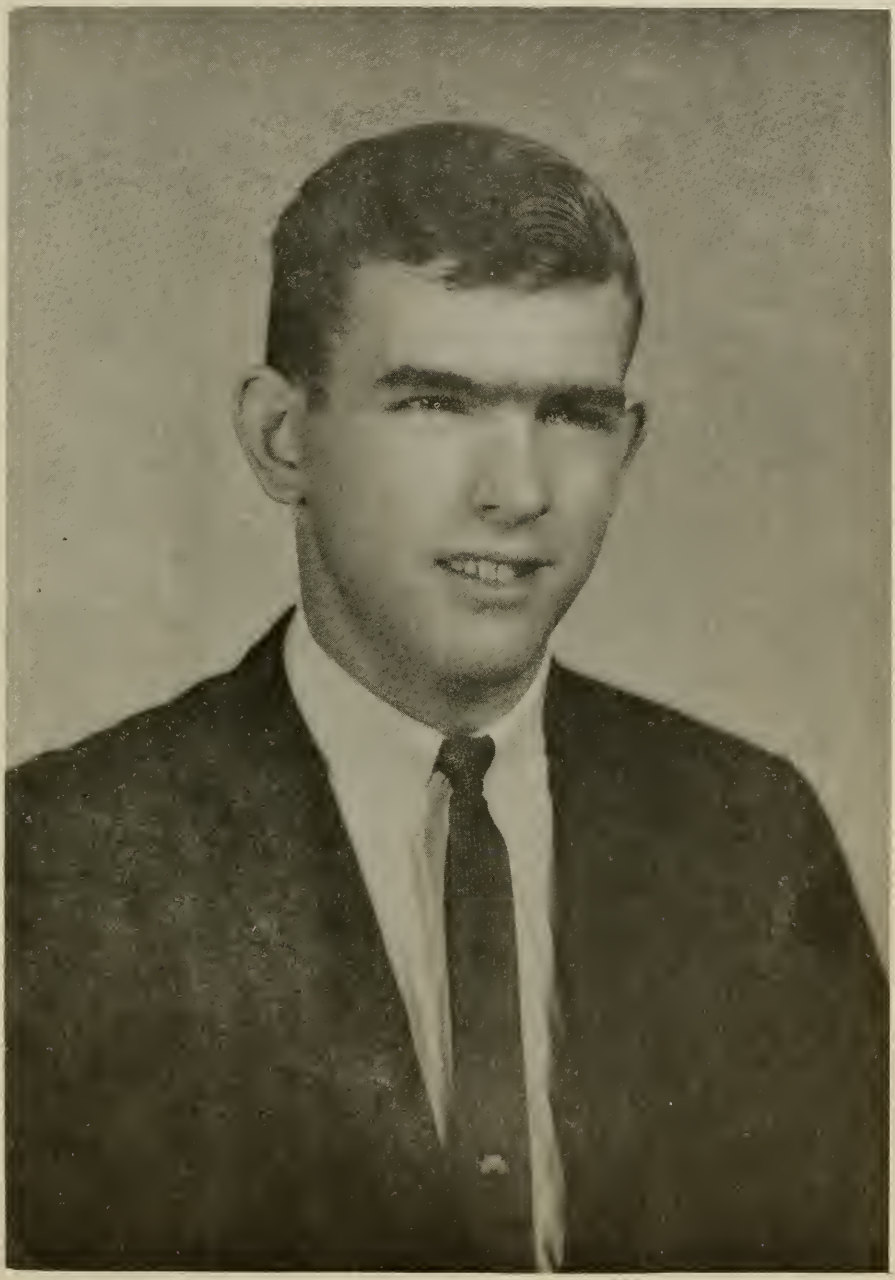
Children: 3 (Thacher) 3 sons, 1972.

DAVID THOMAS[13] 1139
born Monday, February 15, 1965, at Binghamton, New York; baptized Sunday, February 28, 1965 at St. Francis Catholic Church, Nanticoke, Pennsylvania; living Susquehanna,

Pennsylvania, 1979.

DONALD JAMES[13] 1140
born Thursday, April 21, 1966 at Binghamton, New York; baptized Sunday, May 8, 1966, at St. Patricks Roman Catholic Church, Binghamton, New York; living Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, 1979.

JEFFREY SCOTT[13] 1141
born Tuesday, September 22, 1970 at Susquehanna, Pennsylvania; living in Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, 1979.



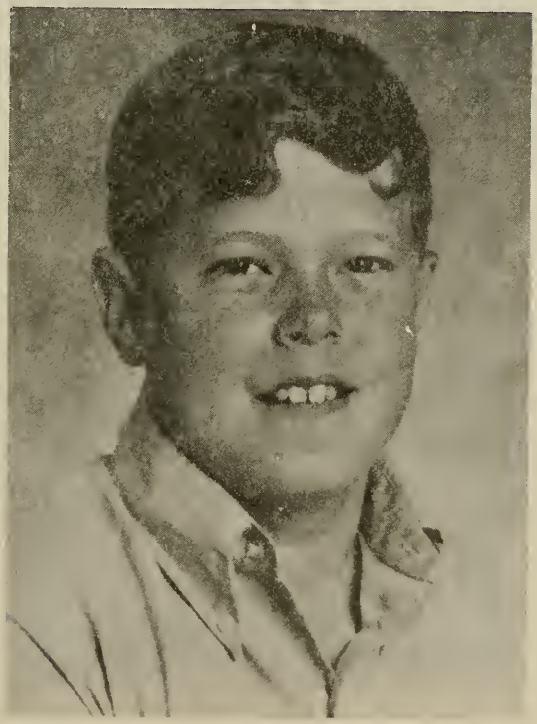
Leonard James[12] Thacher
1948-
1964

81 LEONARD JAMES[12] THACHER (Merlyn James[11], William
61 Peter[10], James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev.
Peter[5], Rev. Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2],
Rev. Peter[1]) born Thursday, September 2, 1948,
at Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania; he was a
manager trainee for Sears Roebuck Company,
Alexandria, Virginia, 1971; he graduated
from Wyoming Seminary, Kingston, Pennsyl-
vania, 1966, and entered Union College,
Barbourville, Kenturky, in September; he
completed his college studies at West
Virginia University and graduated in 1970
with a B.S. Degree in Secondary Education;
be married Virgina Anne Scyphers on Satur-
day, September 5, 1970. The Rev. Maurice
Miller minister of the Athens Methodist
Church, West Virginia performed the ceremony.
Leonard and Virginia Thacher live at Dale
City, Virginia, 1973; Virginia Scyphers was
born at Princeton, West Virginia, Friday,
April 16, 1948; her place of residence be-
fore marriage was Athens, West Virginia; she
was a daughter of Guy Buck Scyphers and his
wife Frances Cooper Scyphers. Guy Scyphers
was cashier for the Bank of Athens, Athens,
West Virginia; he was born Tuesday, August
29, 1922, at Athens, West Virginia. Guy
Scyphers and Frances Christine Cooper were
married Saturday, July 24, 1943, at
Indianapolis, Indiana, by Rev. James H.
Edwards of the Broadway Methodist Church.
They reside in Athens, West Virginia.

Children: 1 (Thacher) 1 daughter, 1973.

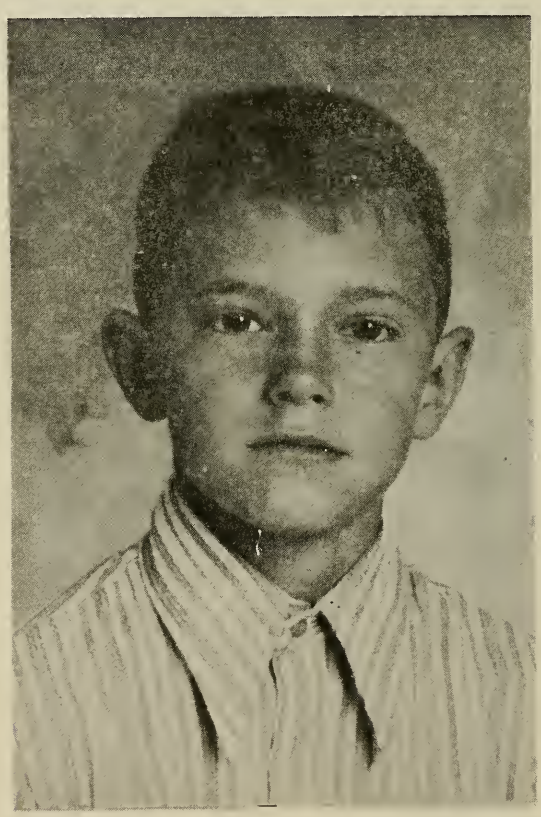
KIMBERLY LYNN[13] 1142
born Friday, April 2, 1971, Fairfax,
Virginia; living Dale City, Virginia, 1973.

82 WILLIAM CRAIG[13] THACHER (William Peter[12], Elwood
74 James[11], William Peter[10], James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev. Peter[5], Rev. Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2], Rev. Peter[1]) born Saturday, February 6, 1960, at Miami, Florida; he resided at Miami, Florida, Arlington, Virginia, Frederick and Lewistown, Maryland; William Craig graduated with honors from Governor Thomas Johnson High School in Frederick, Maryland, on June 7th, 1978. He entered Frostburg State College, Frostburg, Maryland, in September, 1978, to study engineering. He lives with his parents at Lewistown, Maryland, 1978.



William Craig[13] Thacher
1960-
1971

318 JEFFREY LUKENS[13] THACHER (William Peter[12], 74 Elwood James[11], William Peter[10], James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], John[6], Rev. Peter[5], Rev. Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2], Rev. Peter[1]) born Friday, September 21, 1962, at Alexandria, Virginia; he resided at Arlington, Virginia, Frederick, and Lewistown, Maryland; he lives with his parents at Lewistown, Maryland, 1979.



Jeffrey Lukens[13] Thacher
1962-
1971

1139 DAVID THOMAS[13] THACHER (Clifford Samuel[12], Clifford James[11], William Peter[10], James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], etc. see Clifford Samuel[12]) born Monday, February 15, 1965, at Binghamton, New York; he resided at Binghamton, New York, and Susquehanna, Pennsylvania; he lives with his parents at Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, 1979.

80

David Thomas[13] Thacher
1965-

1979

1140 DONALD JAMES[13] THACHER (Clifford Samuel[12], 80 Clifford James[11], William Peter[10], James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], etc. see Clifford Samuel[12]) born Thursday, April 21, 1966, at Binghamton, New York; he resided at Binghamton, New York, and Susquehanna, Pennsylvania; he lives with his parents in Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, 1979.

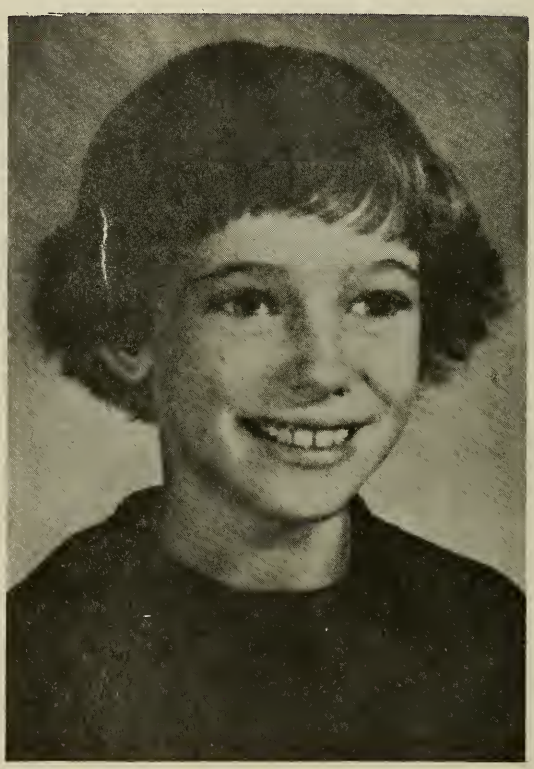
Donald James[13] Thacher
1966-

1979

1141 DONNA MICHELLE[13] THACHER (Thomas Wayne[12],
76 Elwood James[11], William Peter[10], James Peter[9],
Peter[8], Peter[7], etc. see Thomas Wayne[6]) born,
Satruday, April 18, 1970 at Fairfax,
Virginia; she resided at Hollywood, and
Franconia, Virginia; she lives with her
parents in Centerville, Virginia, 1978.

Donna Michelle[13] Thacher
1970-
1977

1142 KIMBERLY LYNN[13] THACHER (Leonard James[12], 81 Merlyn James[11], William Peter[10], Peter[9], etc. see Leonard James) born Friday, April 2, 1971 at Fairfax, Virginia; she lives with her parents at Dale City, Virginia, 1978.

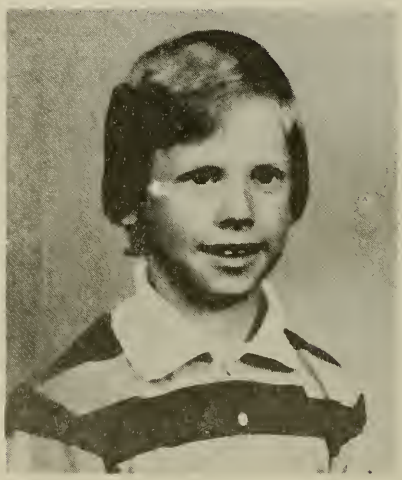


Kimberly Lynn[13] Thacher
1971 -
1978

143 CHERYL ANN[13] THACHER (Elwood James[12] Elwood
75 James[11] William Peter[10], James Peter[9],
Peter[8], Peter[7], etc. see Elwood James[12]) born
Saturday, March 11, 1972 at Frederick,
Frederick County, Maryland; baptized St.
Johns Catholic Church; she resided at
Frederick, Maryland; she lives with her
parents in Frederick, 1977.

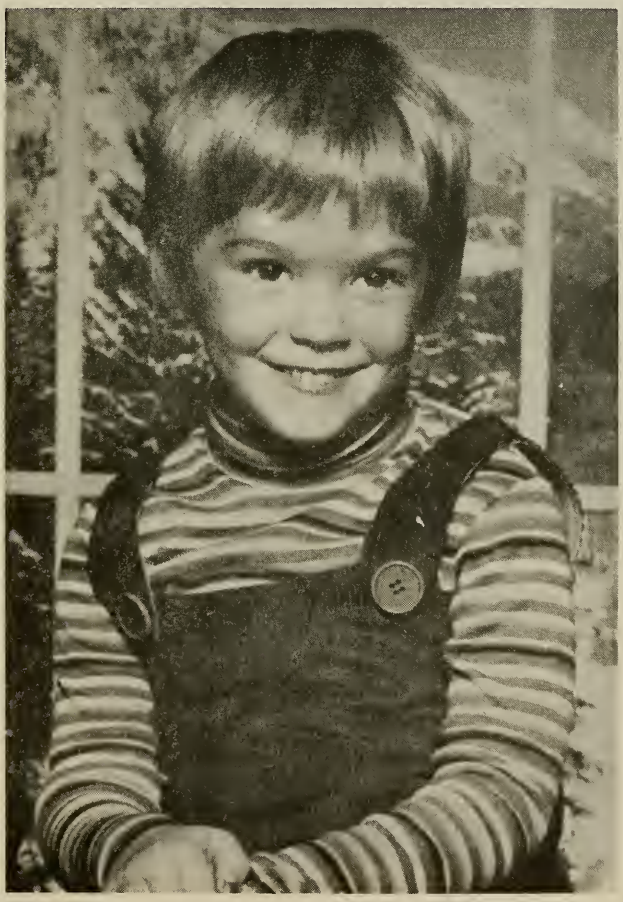
Cheryl Ann[13] Thacher
1972-
1976

1144 JEFFREY SCOTT[13] THACHER (Clifford Samuel[12], 80 Clifford James[11], William Peter[10], James Peter[9], Peter[8], Peter[7], etc. see Clifford Samuel[12]) born Tuesday, September 22, 1970 at Susquehanna, Pennsylvania; he resides with his parents, 1979.



Jeffrey Scott[13] Thacher
1970-
1978

1193 SHERRY LYNN[13] THACHER[12] (Thomas[11] Wayne[10], Elwood
76 James[9], William Peter[8], Peter[7], etc. see
Thomas Wayne[6]) born Tuesday, October 10,
1972, at Fairfax Hospital Fairfax, Virginia;
Virginia; she lives with her parents at
Centerville, Virginia, 1978 .



Sherry Lynn[13] Thacher
1972-
1977

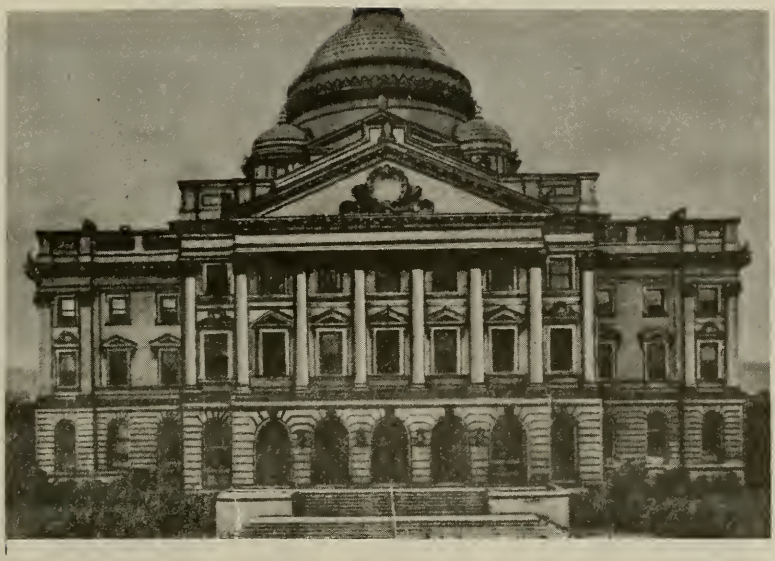
1201 DEBORAH LEIGH[13] THACHER (Elwood James[12], Elwood
75 James[11], William Peter[10], James Peter[9], etc. see
Elwood James[11]) born Thursday, October 25,
1973, in Frederick, Frederick County,
Maryland; she lives with her parents in
Frederick, Maryland, 1977.

Deborah Leigh[13] Thacher
1973 -
1976

Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

County Seat
of
Luzerne County

Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
Central City Area
Susquehanna River and Bridge
West Market Street
1978



Luzerne County Court House
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
1930's

South Main Street
from Public Square
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
1930's

WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
Central City
Borough of Kingston
Delaware and Hudson Connecting Railroad and Bridge
River
3
North Street Bridge
2
Susquehanna
River Common
North
4
Street
West Market Street Bridge
North River Street
North Franklin Street
1
5
6
7
8
Public
North Main Street
South River Street
9
14
15
10
South Franklin Street
12
Square
13
East
North
16
Main Street
Northampton
Market Street
Washington Street
South
Street
11
17
South
18
Pennsylvania Avenue

WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
CENTRAL CITY AREA

1 Hotel Sterling

2 Luzerne County Court House

3 Glen Alden Coal Company (abandoned)

4 First Presbyterian Church

5 Irem Temple Shrine

6 First Methodist Church

7 United Penn Bank

8 Pomeroys Store

9 St. Stevens Church

10 Osterhout Library

11 American Auto Store

12 Boston Store

13 First National Bank Building

14 Veterans Administration

15 Wilkes-Barre High School (Coughlin)

16 City Hall

17 Old Fell House

18 St. Mary's Catholic Church

"It is indeed a lovely spot. I cease to wonder that it has been so zealously fought over."

> Sentiments expressed by Chief Justice McKean, November, 1788, when traveling from Philadelphia to Wilkes-Barre for the trial of Colonel John Franklin, his party stopped for fifteen minutes at Prospect Park, part way down the Wilkes-Barre Mountain, to contemplate the beauty of the Valley that lay stretched out before him.

The area known as Wyoming (from the Indian "big plains") covered a large section of north eastern Pennsylvania, through which flows the Susquehanna River and included the 15 miles from Pittston to Nanticoke which we know as the Wyoming Valley, famed for its natural beauty and fertility.

Title to this area was claimed by two opposing parties--one, the Colony of Connecticut, the other, William Penn.

King Charles II of England was responsible for this omnious confusion. He had granted each a hugh tract of land, totally unaware that the two tracts overlapped in this section.

There was an important distinction between the two titles. The one given to Connecticut rested on a royal charter granted first to the Plymouth Company, and then to the Colony. The other grew out of a direct grant by the King to William Penn, in payment of a debt which the British government owed to Admiral Penn, father of William, who had been a distinguished officer in the British navy for many years.

The settler under the Connecticut title became

the absolute owner of the land in his possession. The settler under the Penn government, on the contrary, was merely a tenant paying a nominal rent and agreeing to hold the land against hostile intrusion. The former owned the land as a freehold estate, the latter resembled the Feudal tenure of the middle ages, with the Quaker, William Penn, representing the Lord Paramount. The followers of Penn were called Pennamites, the New Englanders, needless to say, Yankees.

In addition to obtaining the Royal Charter, it was required that the land be duly purchased from the Indians, and that the new proprietors then take possession of it.

In January and February, 1769, both parties arrived in the Wyoming Valley to take over--within three weeks of each other. It was inevitable that a fight over the possession of the land would follow. It did. It is known in history as the Yankee-Pennamite War, a drama in two acts, with many scenes, lasting 30 years, the intermission occurring in order that the contending parties could join forces to fight for the Declaration of Independence.

The Pennamites were military and civil authorities sent here by William Penn to protect his land. The Yankees came as members of the Connecticut Susquehanna Land Company, formed in Connecticut in 1753, to make a permanent settlement for their families and their future. They were God-fearing, law-abiding, robust, determined and courageous people, as their history proves.

The Yankees built forts--Durkee on the river bank, between South and Ross Streets, and Forty Fort, named for the first 40 pioneers, at the corner of River and Fort Streets in Forty Fort.

The Pennamites also built forts--Ogden, near the General Hospital (site of the original Yankee settlement at Mill Creek) and Wyoming, on the river bank, just below Northampton Street.

The forts repeatedly changed hands, depending on which side won the current battle. Ogden and Wyoming were eventually burned to the ground. Both sides were repeatedly driven from the Valley -- and returned with renewed determination.

Forty Fort became famous at the time of the Wyoming Massacre, when the Valley was attacked by the British Tories and Indians, July 3, 1778.

During these strife-torn years the Yankees governed themselves strictly, and with great credit, according to the familiar New England Town Meeting tradition. Historians have called it an example of democracy in its purest form.

Major John Durkee, a great leader, was elected President of the Settlers in 1769. This same year he gave Wilkes-Barre its curious name--so dear to comedians -- honoring John Wilkes and Colonel Izaac Barre, both members of the British Parliament, and staunch defenders of the rights of the struggling young colonies in the new world.

Between battles, Durkee saw that the land was surveyed and divided into five "settling towns" -- Wilkes-Barre, Hanover, Kingston, Plymouth and Pittstown, and next laid out and surveyed the town plot of Wilkes-Barre, with its 50 lots, for individual buyers, reserving the center square and about 35 acres along the river bank for the general public.

Major Durkee, in August 1769, sent a petition, with 169 signatures, to the General Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut asking them to "Erect

& Establish a County here on the River." The settlers felt that a definite connection with the mother colony would give them greater authority in combating raids by both the Indians and the Pennamites. But they had to wait over four years before this petition was granted.

This delay was not due to negligence. The machinery of the law works slowly at all times and communications travelled then at the speed of a horse, using trails that led through wilderness and swamp, and across mountains and rivers.

First, Governor Trumbull of Connecticut sought and obtained confirmation from Great Britain on the Colony's Right and Title to the Wyoming lands. Then he tried diplomatically to settle the dispute by compromise with the Pennsylvania authorities -- all in vain.

Finally, in January 1774, the petition was granted. Governor Trumbull enacted a law making the Wyoming lands into a Town called Westmoreland, "with like powers and privileges as other Towns in this Colony (Connecticut) by law have." (According to the Connecticut system, a "Town" is a municipal district equivalent to a Township in some states, and may cover seven or eight square miles). The newly created town was attached to Litchfield County, Connecticut, where the town of Litchfield was the County seat.

The boundaries of Westmoreland were -- on the north and south the 42nd and 41st parallels of latitude, respectively; the Delaware River on the East, and 15 miles west of the Susquehanna, on the West. This was only a small protion of the original Susquehanna purchase. The official census of January, 1774 listed the population of Westmoreland as 1,922 whites, no blacks.

The laws of Connecticut were extended over the settlements, representatives from Westmoreland attended sessions of the Connecticut General Assembly, the people were inspired with a feeling of confidence, and sense of security, and all rejoiced over their recognition as a legitimate child of the Mother Colony -- but Governor Penn and his Council were far from pleased.

Indeed, there was a small group of Connecticut citizens who did not share in the enthusiasm; but since their opposition was directly connected with their fear of increased taxation, they were made the subject of "banter and ridicule" by the majority.

Meanwhile, the Wyoming Yankees continued to hold their town meetings. On April 12, 1774, it was voted that "Capt obidiah Gove & obidiah Gore Junr are appointed raters and branders of horses; that for ye Present ye three that Now stands Northerly from Captain Butler's house (corner River and Northamton Streets) shall be ye Town sign post (there being no newspaper); that ye Hogs are allowed to go at Large on ye Commons."

Wilkes-Barre already had schools, churches, several grist mills, one saw mill, ever increasing areas of improved land, and now established a regiment of Connecticut Militia, known as the "24th", with Zebulon Butler as Colonel and Nathan Denison as Lieutenant Colonel.

Always fervently patriotic , when news of the Battle of Bunker Hill reached the Valley, a town meeting was held at which it was voted that the "inhabitants of Westmoreland would unanimously join their brethern in America in the common cause of defending their liberty." This was in August, 1775.

But the final scenes in Act 1 of the Yankee-Pennamite War were not yet over. Hostilities broke out in September and December -- this time new settlers on the west branch of the Susquehanna were involved. There were casualtities and defeat on both sides; but the Yankees won the final battle, to the increased wrath and bitterness of the Pennamites.

Because of the small population and the extensive area it occupied, Westmoreland was an exceptionally vulnerable frontier. The two nearest towns were Easton and Sunbury, both sixty odd miles away in opposite directions, the former southeast and the latter southwest, and neither of them friendly to the Yankees.

While to the north the Indians, feeling the effects of the general unrest in the country, and naturally wishing to be on the winning side which they expected would be the British, gave assistance to the British and the Tories, both, by furnishing grain from their spacious fields, as well as by fighting on the British side in their own Indian fashion which was most effective in the wilderness terrain.

In the summer of 1776 at a Town Meeting, it was voted to build forts in strategic places. Forty Fort was enlarged and strengthened and a new fort was built on the southern half of the four acre lot reserved in the "Center (now "Public") Square." It was big enough to be used for a town hall and jail and was named Fort Wilkes-Barre.

Colonels Butler and Denison returned from an Assembly meeting in Hartford in November with the glad news that the Town of Westmoreland had at last been raised to the dignified status of a County with its own County seat -- Wilkes-Barre. It was still a County of the State of Connecticut.

The Continental Congress -- which had first been convened in Philadelphis in September 1774 -- had, in September 1776, ordered the formation of two Westmoreland Independent Companies of Militia (with 86 men in each company, all furnishing their own arms and accouterments and uniforms, if any). The day before the Congress left Philadelphia, which had become the "seat of war," for the safer ground of Baltimore (December 1776), they passed a resolution ordering the two Westmoreland Independent Companies to join General Washington with all "possible expedition" -- which they did, arriving in Morristown, January 9, 1777.

The following April Colonel Butler, who had been detached on special service at Headquarters since January 9, was sent to Danbury to take command of a detachment of Connecticut troops and march them to Headquarters at Morristown where, in May, the two Westmoreland Independent Companies were also attached to his Command, at which time they were all ordered to proceed "forwith to Bound Brook, New Jersey."

It was the next year, July 3, 1778, when the men of fighting age were away, that the Wyoming Massacre brought sorrow and desolation to the Valley. Wilkes-Barre became a ghost town, its inhabitants, mostly women and children, fleeing either to the mountains on foot, or escaping down the river on hastily constructed rafts, leaving their homes looted and burned, their livestock killed or driven into the forest, their dead unburied. The results of nine years of back-breaking labor were in a state of utter devastation.

One month later, August 4th, with a force of 113 men Colonel Butler returned to the Valley, and finding a house on Main Street, below Northampton, that had escaped destruction, built a

palisade around it, and, naming it Camp Westmoreland, moved in.

The several hundred bereft refugees, meanwhile, were objects of charity in the communities to which they had fled, an unbearable condition for those proud, independent, industrious Yankees.

So, all men who were able, made their way back to the Valley as soon as possible, and set to work salvaging their crops, and as many of their livestock as they could find and building temporary shelters. It was October before they could take time to collect and properly bury the bodies of their comrades killed during the Massacre. Many years passed and still skulls and bones would be found in unexpected places -- a grim reminder of that fateful day.

In October, Colonel Butler, as Commander of the Wyoming Post, erected a new, substantial Fort Wyoming, on the site of the earlier one, on the bank near Northamton Street. Near it he built two blockhouses, to shelter the returning families whose houses had been destroyed, for whom there was no room in the Fort.

During this period the Valley was more than ever subjected to raids from the Indians, either singly or in groups, who would take prisoners of all ages whom they might brutally kill or carry off into captivity. The most famous victim of Indian kidnapping was the little five-year old girl, named Frances Slocum. She was carried off over the shoulder of an Indian, in full sight of her weeping mother, who was holding her baby, while her other children were running to safety, and her mother never saw her again. Fifty seven years later a brother of Frances heard of a white woman living among a tribe of Miami Indians in Indiana. It turned

out to be Frances, who had married an Indian, had four children by him, loved them all dearly, and could not be persuaded to leave them. A childless couple had originally adopted her, all Indians had been kind to her all through her life with them, their language was her language. Various members of the Slocum family journeyed west in 1839 to see her, and, with the aid of an interpreter, had a lovely visit with her. She died in March, 1847, aged 74, and is buried beside her husband and two sons, in Indiana, in the Indian grave-yard. Many of her collateral descendants still live in the Wyoming Valley.

The perilous condition of the disorganized Valley was brought to the attention of General Washington, and though deeply concerned, he had no troops to spare for service in this remote frontier along the Susquehanna.

The savage attacks of the Indians continued. For some unknown reason appeals for help to Connecticut received no response. Gradually the Pennsylvania authorities realized that the settlers in Wyoming were a protection to communities more centrally located, and that it would be a calamity to let the Indians gain possession of this frontier region. Washington, himself, conceived the idea of carrying the war into New York State, where the Indians were giving all aid to the British.

From the letters written back and forth, and conferences held, a great stategic idea emerged -- the Sullivan Expedition against the Six Nations. Its purpose was to destroy all the Indian villages and crops, thus driving the Indians westward, out of reach of the British, whose strength would be seriously weakened by their loss.

The expedition was to start from Wilkes-Barre and head north. On June 23, 1779, Major General John Sullivan, aged 39, native of New Hampshire, Revolutionary War Veteran, with a fine record, arrived with the main body of his army, and made camp on the bank at the bend of the river, to await the arrival of the remaining units of his army.

This was an exciting time for little Wilkes-Barre. The town was over-run with Continental soldiers, not only Yankees and Pennamites; but some from France and Germany as well.

There was some diversity of opinion in regard to the expedition. The Quakers said the Indians deserved pity, while the wealthy and politically influential Pennamites expressed satisfaction at having the "hated intruders (the Yankees) kept out of the disputed territory (by the Indians) until the War was over."

On June 24, 1779, while Sullivan's army was encamped here, the brethern of the newly formed Military Lodge Number 19 of Free Masons observed the first festival day in the Masonic calendar (anniversary of St. John the Baptist). The meeting was held in the marquee of Colonel Procter, the Worshipful Master, where twenty years earlier had stood the village of Teedyuscung, Chief of the Delawares, a good friend of the white man, who had been converted by Moravian missionaries.

Meanwhile, Wilkes-Barre was established as a Continental Military Post, with Colonel Butler in command of the garrison. The Valley was left under his protection when the Expedition finally took off on July 31, returning October 7, its mission accomplished. Those who defended the campaign said it was carried out "not in the spirit of revenge; but as an act of self-preser-

vation. No government is worthy of the name which does not secure the safety and protection of its people."

Under the direction of Colonel Butler a great feast was given in honor of Sullivan and his men, after which they all departed (October 12), leaving the Valley again under the protection of the pitifully small Wilkes-Barre garrison.

An increasing number of families were meanwhile making their way back to start life all over. One man expressed the general feeling when he said, "I would rather die fighting than to be driven from my home again." It is sad to report that many of them did just that -- died fighting, for the troubles of those early settlers were by no means ended.

Westmoreland being a part of Connecticut, all the men who volunteered to fight for their Country were mustered into Connecticut regiments as units of the Continental army. Had they been spared incalculable suffering. Not many months after Sullivan's great expedition, Wyoming again became the prey of blood curdling Indian-Tory attacks. The enemy came south all the way from Fort Niagara, where, again, those who were not brutally murdered, were taken back into captivity. There were times when no one dared leave the safety of the Forts, so that food and water were added problems. Worse still, when the Pennsylvania authorities ordered provisions to be sent up the river to the beleaguered settler, the people at Fort Augusta (now Sunbury) stopped the boats. Jealousy is said to have prompted this inhuman action.

Relief did not come until after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis on October 19, 1781; but with the war of Independence ended, immediately the old Yankee-Pennamite question became paramount.

It was decided to try a new approach -- a peaceful one. The problem would be decided by a judical tribunal. At the joint request of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, the Congress recognized as commissioners to constitute a Court, five men from different states, thus precluding any suggestion of prejudice.

This Court sat in Trenton, thoroughly reviewing the case, from November 12 until December 30, 1782, and then came to the unanimous decision in favor of Pennsylvania. This was the famous "Decree of Trenton," and ended forever the jurisdiction of Connecticut in Wyoming and Westmoreland. The County of Westmoreland was forthwith attached to Northumberland, with the county seat at Sunbury.

The Yankees took all this in their stride, thankful to have the strife-torn question decided at last -- or so they believed. It soon developed to the decree dealt only with the political aspect of the problem, leaving untouched the vitally important question of "right to the soil."

Thus began the Second Act of the Yankee-Pennamite War, (1783-84) during which "many lives were lost, much valuable property was spitefully destroyed, and the deepest misery and undying hatred was engendered among the participants."

In settling the boundaries of the various states, there were innumerable bitter disputes; but while the jurisdiction of the borderland settlers might be changed, the decision never involved the "right to the soil," -- there was never any question of the settlers being disturbed in their rights of possession. Wyoming was the painful exception to this rule, which was a terrible mistake on the part of the

Pennsylvania government. As one writer says, "the affections and allegiance of such people would have been worth more than all their lands."

Pennsylvania sent soldiers to occupy Fort Wyoming to assist the civil authorities from Easton and Sunbury in their job of evicting the Yankees from their homes. In just two days in May, 1784, 150 families -- more than 500 people, most of whom were women and children, were driven from the Valley into the wilderness, and ordered never to return.

In July, a band of about 100 evicted Yankees made their way back and surrounded Fort Wyoming. The siege lasted five days, during which several lives were lost, the Pennamites burned 24 houses, and the Yankees were again driven off.

Pennsylvania replied to this brave effort of the Yankees by sending Colonel John Armstrong with a force of 400 militiamen who, by resorting to base trickery, captured over 80 Yankees, half of whom they marched in irons to jail in Easton, the other half to Sunbury.

The chief executive of these cruel tyrannies over the Yankees in Wyoming was Alexander Patterson. They were forbidden by him to plant their fields and gardens, fish in the river -- their great source of food during the summer -- cut down trees or repair their homes, and when they broke these rules they were heavily fined, beaten, and put in jail, while soldiers looted their homes and insulted their women.

All the while, various petitions were sent to the General Assembly praying for relief, protection and justice; but it was not until November 1784 that any action was taken. When the Legislature ordered that the Connecticut

settlers should be restored to their possessions. At midnight on the 27th of November, Colonel Armstrong and his militia quietly marched out of the Valley and three days later the jubilant settlers met together on the river bank and razed Fort Wyoming to the ground. This may be considered the end of the Second Act of the Yankee-Pennamite War; but the bitter feelings engendered by it remained.

Having suffered enough from the Pennsylvania authorities, the Wyoming settlers now looked upon their connection with Northumberland with repugnance. They went back to governing themselves -- within the framework of the laws of Pennsylvania -- and even raised a regiment of militia, electing John Franklin as Colonel, and John Jenkins as Major. This so aroused the wrath of the Pennamites living in the region that a delegation of sixteen went to Philadelphia to complain to the Supreme Executive Council (January 1785). Others wrote complaining letters.

The Yankees, on their part, sent a petition to the General Assembly, signed by 96 of the most prominent settlers of the Susquehanna Company, reading in part:

> "We your humble petitioners - - - lay before your Honorable House the deplorable situation in which we have been enveloped since the Decree of Trenton - - - From that date we have been denied the due administration of the laws of Pennsylvania, or, in other words, Common Justice, which the greatest criminals are entitled to.
> - - - We are at present destitute of any civil authority in this place - - therefore the sooner we can have the privilege of electing our own officers, civil and

military, agreeable to the Constitution of this State, the sooner happiness, peace and order will be restored of this settlement, - - - we have thought it most advisable to form ourselves in some order for our mutual defense and safety, and to act as near the laws of this State as possible, until we shall have a constitutional establishment of the same. We most heartily pray for your Honors' exertions. - - - - - - - -"

The responses to the numerous petitions consumed months, even years. Various commissions were appointed to investigate the situation. One committee man, from Northumberland, who was no lover of Yankees, reported, in all honesty, "the wrongs and sufferings of the people of Wyoming are intolerable. If there was ever a people on earth deserving re-dress it is these people."

While these proceedings were dragging along, a most unexpected turn of events was developing. It began when a group of out-side land speculators obtained shares in the Susquehanna Company, from which large areas of land came into their possession.

At a meeting in Hartford of the Susquehanna Company (July 13, 1785), the members voted to never give up their "claim and right of soil" on the Susquehanna, and, also to grant land to new half-share proprietors, up to 400 in number, provided they arrive to take possession by October 1785 and remain three years.

Fired with enthusiasm, and throughly fed up with trying to get anywhere with the Pennsylvania authorities, a group of radicals decided to ask General Ethan Allen, who had successfully separated the new state of Vermont from

York and New Hampshire, to help them organize the Susquehanna region into a completely new and independent state.

General Allen replied he was wholly in sympathy with the idea, (his father had been an original proprietor in the Susquehanna Company) and would "speedily repair to Wyoming with a small detachment of Green Mountain boys to vindicate the right of soil to the proprietors." He planned to come to Wyoming that autumn (1785), but was unable to make the trip until the following spring.

Encouraged by the prospect of General Allen's support, the attitude of a number of the Yankees toward the remaining Pennamites grew increasingly aggressive and, on several occasions, even violent. To put a stop to these dangerous outbreaks a Town Meeting was held (November, 1785) in Wilkes-Barre, while in Philadelphia (in December) the General Assembly passed an Act for "quieting disturbances at Wyoming, for pardoning certain offenders, and for other purposes."

This brought a reply from the Yankees, in the form of a petition, (February, 1786) asking if the "offenders" mentioned meant "only such as have been found guilty upon trial - - or for all who stand indicted for supposed offences?" In the closing paragraphs they said in part: "Your petitioners would most earnestly request that this settlement might be set off as a distinct county. - - - - Your honors will permit us just to observe that prior to the Decree of Trenton we lived happy under the jurisdiction of the State of Connecticut and the enjoyment of her laws. We now wish to be received as good citizens of the State of Pennsylvania and to enjoy the blessings of your glorious Constitution."

A letter, dated February 25, 1786, was also

written and signed by John Franklin, William Hooker Smith and John Jenkins, addressed to Dr. Benjamin Franklin, who had succeeded (October 18, 1785) the ineffectual John Dickinson as President of the Supreme Executive Council.

Captain John Paul Schott set out for Philadelphia where he delivered the letter to Franklin and the Petition to the General Assembly, where it was duly read, and promptly tabled.

Colonel Timothy Pickering, then in Philadelphia wrote to a friend, "The Wyoming dispute is revived. Some are for dispelling those settlers by the swort. - - They can muster 800 fighting men - - - the late Council of Censors of this State, in September, 1784, pronounced all measure of Government respecting those people to have been 'destitute of wisdom and foresight." I think so, too. Those measures were taken during the feeble administration of President Dickinson."

The Assembly, at its April meeting, again discussed Wyoming affairs, including the request for a division of the county of Northumberland; but, in its dilatory way, adjourned without taking any action.

However, in Wilkes-Barre, things were humming for, on April 27, General Allen arrived for his long delayed visit, staying for two weeks in the home of Zebulon Butler.

His presence in the Valley stirred up a hornet's next of controversy, for opinions were hotly divided on the subject of forming a new State. Those in favor were mostly men who lived in New York State and Connecticut. A lawyer from Farmington, Connecticut, had even drawn up a Constitution for the new State which was to be called Westmoreland.

In June, Dr. Franklin's reply to the letter written to him in February was received, in which he said, in part:
"Your request to us appeared to be reasonable - - - - the Assembly accordingly took the necessary steps - - - respecting your request for a separate County, which will probably be completed at their next session."

However, when they reconvened in August, although they had knowledge of the Ethan Allen project, they did nothing about it. After dawdling along for four weeks, several members received, on September 23, copies of a printed document, 24 by 18 inches in size, containing "An Address to the People at Large of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania," all about affairs in Wyoming, and very incendiary in character. The names of Ethan Allen, John Franklin and John Jenkins were attached to it.

At long last the House members were electrified into action. On that very date, Saturday, September 23, 1786, the "Bill providing for the erecting of the Wyoming district into a separate County" was disinterred, read, "engrossed," and voted upon with 44 yeas and 14 nays. It was 17 years since the First Forty had settled in the Valley and four years since the Decree of Trenton.

Having named their town for the two Englishmen who had given their support to the Colonies, the Yankees, for their County, chose to honor a Frenchman, also a loyal friend, Ceasar Anne de la Luzerne, who had been a Minister from France to the United States from 1779 to 1783. Wilkes-Barre was designated as the County seat.

The original Luzerne County covered about 3700 square miles with a population of about 2700. It was later subdivided, thus making the

additional counties of Lackawanna, Wayoming, Susquehanna and Bradford.

With the dream of a County of their own realized, it was now necessary to set in motion the new wheels of government. Under Pennsylvania law, it was the duty of the Supreme Executive Council to appoint a reputable citizen of the State to head up this job. Among the several applicants the man chosen was Colonel Timothy Pickering, a native of Massachusetts, a Harvard graduate, and a lawyer, with a most distinguished record of service throughout the Revolutionary War. (He was just 41 years old.)

The Legislature appointed Zebulon Butler and John Franklin to assist Pickering, but Franklin refused to have any part in it.

The first election was held February 1, 1787 at the home of Colonel Butler. 223 electors came, from up and down the Susquehanna, to cast their votes for the various officials of the new County.

Pickering noted in his journal for that day: "The election has gone on with great quiet and regularity - - - a private fray happened - - but it seems thay had gone in liquor - - election day. - - Two Pennamites were got scent of and got a severe beating. No other disturbances, except a private quarrel about paying for some liquor."

However, peace had not yet come to the Valley; for the vital "right of soil" question remained unanswered.

In March, 1787, the General Assembly passed an "Act for ascertaining and confirming to certain persons, called Connecticut Claimants, the lands by them claimed within the County of

Luzerne." It provided that claimants who had been settlers prior to the Decree of Trenton would have their titles confirmed, if they could produce their title papers within the next 8 months.

(The Pennsylvania land jobbers, knowing the chaotic history of the region, with the settlers repeatedly driven from their homes, figured that all such papers would have long since been lost. To their chagrin, many were produced, so, within a year, the Act was suspended, and two years later repealed - April 1, 1790).

On May 29, the first Luzerne County Courts were convened at the home of Colonel Butler, where all the new officers were duly sworn in, after which the Court of Common Please and the Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace were opened. Luzerne County's first four young lawyers took the oath of office on this occasion. (Ebenezer Bowman, William Nichols, Rosewell Welles and Putnam Catlin).

It was decided to erect a permanent Court House and jail on the Public Square on the former site of Fort Wilkes-Barre. The building was ready for use by the fall of 1788.

The General Assembly had appointed Colonel Pickering to perform the duties required by the Confirming Act, and though he acted with utmost tact and sincerity, he soon found himself confronted with a strong, even violent, opposition, led by that long-time defender of the Yankee settlers, Colonel John Franklin. Franklin and his countless followers had no faith in the Confirming Law promises, nor had they even accepted the Decree of Trenton; but were still fighting for the Susquehanna claims under the Connecticut Charter.

At a large meeting, held in the old Forty Fort, the two factions came together to debate whether or not to accept the terms of the Confirming Act. Colonel Pickering made a law-abiding address, pledging his sacred honor that Pennsylvania was honest in her purpose; but Franklin replied with bitter resentment, reciting the sufferings the settlers had endured under Armstrong and Patterson, etc., etc., working passions up to such a pitch that the meeting ended in a free-for-all fight. Somehow, in the midst of the uproar, a vote was taken accepting the terms of the Confirming Act, though the Franklinites continued to fight it in every way possible.

A few days later, the inhabitants were thrown into further commotion by the sudden appearance of General Ethan Allen, complete in cocked hat and full regimentals, to whom the Susquehanna Company promptly granted several thousand acres of land. Under the constitution of the new State, Captain Judd of Farmington, was to be the first governor and Colonel John Franklin, Lieutenant Governor.

Realizing that the Valley was on the verge of civil war, and that Franklin was the leader of the rebel faction, Pickering obtained a writ to arrest Franklin on the charge of high treason. He was taken wholly unawares, and fought with such strength that six men were required to get him on his horse and tie his legs under the horse's belly to keep him there. He was then hustled out of town just in time to prevent his rescue by a group of alerted friends.

The people of Philadelphia were amazed on October 6, 1787, to read in the paper that "Colonel John Franklin, hero of Wyoming" was reposing in the Philadelphia jail!

While in Wilkes-Barre, Colonel Pickering, knowing

that such drastic action would cause reprisals, posted sentinels, whose warning soon followed. With four biscuits in his pocket for sustenance, Pickering took to the fields, from where he could hear the insurgents noisily ransacking his house, in search of him. When he heard them leave, he made his way to the mountains, and though hotly pursued, managed to arrive safely at a farm house some 30 miles distant, where he hired a horse, on which he continued to Philadelphia, where he remained until January, 1788, when he received word it was safe for him to come home. The people of Luzerne County had elected him as their delegate to ratify the Federal Constitution while he was in Philadelphia.

The first six months after Pickering's return passed uneventfully.

Then, on the night of June 26, 1788, while sound asleep in bed with his wife and nine-months old son, he was rudely awakened by fifteen men armed with guns and hatchets. Giving him time to hastily dress, they tied his arms behind his back and marched him off into the night. They took him up the river, alternately marching and camping, a few days at a time, keeping well hidden, as they knew the militia would be ordered out promptly to rescue Pickering. Three weeks passed in this manner.

His captors treated Pickering with respect and consideration. The purpose of the abduction was to persuade him to intercede for Franklin's release, which Pickering consistently refused to do. As the days passed, they asked if he would intercede for <u>them,</u> which he agreed to do, if they would reveal the names of their leaders, which condition they in turn loyally refused.

When they realized the militia was closing in on them, his captors released Pickering, and he returned home, none the worse for his experience.

As for Colonel Franklin, he languished in the Philadelphia jail for 17 months, "with 27 lbs. of iron upon him, "during which time his ardor regarding plans for the new state cooled off, and he became "resolved to be submissive to whatever Providence had assigned me," even to using his influence "in quelling the disturbances in Wyoming."

Upon friends going bail for him, Franklin was released and scheduled to be tried in Wilkesbarre on November 8, 1788, by a Supreme Court, the first to appear in the Valley, with Chief Justice McKean presiding. Certain witnesses being absent from the trial, it was first postponed and eventually abandoned. Pickering's abductors were tried and several put in jail, from which they speedily escaped, with no questions asked.

Thus ended the final dramatic episode in the war between the Yankees and Pennamites over private possession of the land. For the next eleven years Colonel Pickering devoted his talents to securing from the Pennsylvania Legislature several "quieting enactments," the most important of which was the "Compromise Law" of 1799. Under this law the "Pennsylvania claimants were compensated, and the equities of the Connecticut settlers recognized, where actual settlements had been made prior to the Decree of Trenton, in any of the seventeen townships, as originally laid out under the Susquehanna Company."

Certificates of ownership were first issued to the settlers by the Commissioners in 1803, followed by Patents, under the State seal of Pennsylvania in 1805 - thirty six troubled years after the First Forty had arrived at Mill Creek and found the Pennamites three weeks ahead of them.

From this long and painful dispute, certain lessons were learned which helped to guide the men who framed the early, basic laws of our Nation. In this respect, the years of suffering made a significant contribution to the history of young America.

So, at last, peace and concord returned to the beautiful "Vale of Wyoming." Free from the shackles of war, the community grew and prospered, keeping pace with the rest of the burgeoning Nation in the exciting new developments of the times. Roads and highways were built - originally engineered by herds of buffalo and deer, and used by the Indians. The Philadelphia - Lancaster Pike was known as the first "artificial" highway in America. The pack horse gave way to the Conestoga wagon, which in turn was followed by the stage coach. (The Conestoga wagon originated in the valley of that name in the Lancaster region).

In 1794, the first Post Office in the territory of the Susquehanna Purchase was established, with Lord Butler, son of Colonel Zebulon, as the first Post Master. The house on the corner of Northampton and River was once more pressed into service as the Post Office. Prince Alden, great grandson of the famous John and Priscilla, was the first professional Post Rider.

The Wilkes-Barre - Easton turnpike was finished in 1806, whereupon John P. Arndt started a two-horse stage coach service to Easton, which ran once a week, where passengers changed to go on to New York or Philadelphia.

Mail coaches, which replaced the lone post rider, had four horses and carried nine passengers inside and one up with the driver. They started at Fell's Tavern, corner of Northamton Street and Washington, climbed up Wilkes-Barre mountain

to Bear Creek, Wind Gap and Easton, which was an over-night trip. The journey on to the City meant another night on the road. Stage taverns became famous along the way, complete with bar and billiard table, always the center of a boisterous gathering. It was the custom, when guests registered, to add any news of interest for everyone to enjoy.

The moment the signal of the stage coach's approach was heard - the blast of the driver's horn and the crack of his long-lashed whip - every mobile person, regardless of age, dashed out to fully relish the excitement of the arrival and to hear the latest news.

After the War of 1812 ended, the canal building era commenced, with the construction of the Erie Canal - its length greater than all the canals of Great Britain put together. It was formally opened in the fall of 1825.

This started a rash of competitive canals, built with tremendous labor and expense, in various regions, including Luzerne County.

In 1837, the "Susquehanna Line" was formed and opened up a daily service of packet boats to Philadelphia, starting at the North Street lock, via the North Branch (along the Susquehanna) to Northumberland, then via the Union and Schuylkill Canals to Philadelphia. It was a comfortable, leisurely, method of travel - still at the pace of a horse, maybe two horses - taking 48 hours through lovely country. The largest packets were 79 feet long, carried up to 25 passengers, 30 tons of freight and provided every comfort including a bar.

Occasionally a packet boat was chartered for the day by some wealthy person on which to give a gay and delightful party. Happy indeed were the

guests lucky enough to receive an invitation to these unique affairs!

The canal ran along what is now Pennsylvania Avenue, turning over to the river above Union Street to the Public, or "Redoubt" basin, on the present site of the Court House.

As facilities for transportation increased, so also did the prosperity and the population of the Valley.

An interesting incident occurred in little Wilkes-Barre when, in the spring of 1797, the Duke of Orleans, a future King of France, (Louis Philippe) accompanied by his two young brothers, spent three days at the Arndt Tavern on South River Street, where the present residence of Dr. Eugene Farley now stands. They arrived by boat, having come down the river from Asylum, the French refugee settlement, prepared for Marie-Antoinette and Louis, XVI, located on the Susquehanna, north of Wyalusing. Colonel and Mrs. Matthais Hollenback entertained the three young visitors at a memorable dinner party given in their honor, at which the Duke de Montpensier, aged 17, dressed all in white, with gravat and ruffles of costly lace, light-hearted and gay, made a tremendous hit with all the ladies present.

The Duke of Orleans was a Free Mason and, while here, visited Lodge 61, F. and A.M. - then just three years old.

Fifty years later, when the famous Indian painter, George Catlin, was in Paris, the King, Louis-Phillippe, granted him an audience. Imagine his surprise - and entertainment - when, in the course of their conversation, Catlin mentioned that he came from Wilkes-Barre, at which the King exclaimed in delight, "Why! I

have been there. My brothers and I once spent three days in Wilkes-Barre."

By the year 1806, the population had increased sufficiently for an Act to be passed by the Pennsylvania Legislature raising Wilkes-Barre from a township to the status of a borough. The area incorporated covered the "town plot, adjacent river comon, and strip of land adjoining the northeast boundary of the town plot." This necessitated the election of a Burgess - Judge Jesse Fell, a Town Council of seven members with Lord Butler as president and Captain Peleg Tracy as Town Clerk. Peter Yarrington was elected High Constable.

In 1801, the County Commissioners decided they had outgrown the two-story log Court House, so a new one of "unsurpassed elegance" was planned. After moving the old one to the northwest side of the Public Square, the new one was erected on its former site, the southeast corner.

Stewart Pearce says, in his "Annals of Luzerne County": "there were 32 and one half gallons of whiskey used at the raising of this building; a fact which demonstrates wither the great capacity of the people of that day for ardent spirits, or else the presence of a large number of consumers."

The building was dedicated by Judge Rush of Philadelphia in the fall of 1804 and was used for some 50 years, when, in 1856 the corner stone of the third Court HOuse was laid. It was completed in 1859.

The 1804 building was painted red with white trim. On the second floor was a large room used for dancing school, church services and state balls. The basement housed a butcher shop which later became a restaurant with bar. The

one thing omitted was a jail, so the lower floor in the old building was used, until a prisoner, sentenced for 30 years, escaped.

Plans were then made for building a "gaol with gaol yard" of stone at the corner of what is now Washington and East Market Streets. The work went so slowly the jail was not completed until the spring of 1808.

However, provisions for prisoners must have been prepared in advance, for in the fall of 1806 the town Fathers decided that school facilities must be improved and, in March, 1807, an Act of Incorporation established "an Academy, or public school, for the education of youth in the useful arts, sciences, and literature, by the name and style of the Wilkes-Barre Academy."

It was decided to renovate the old Court House and use it for the school building. This was thoroughly done, even to clapboarding the log exterior and adding a cupola with a fifty pound bell.

The school opened in 1807 with Garrick Mallery, a graduate of Yale, as Principal. Mr. Mallery later became President Judge of the district composed of Northamton, Lehigh and Bucks counties.

Although Luzerne County was steadily increasing in population, it covered such a large area that people living in distant parts found it difficult to get to the County seat when their presence there was required.

So, in 1810, the northeast corner broke away and became Susquehanna County with Montrose as the County seat. Two years later, the northwest corner followed suit becoming Bradford County with Towanda the County seat. Thirty

years later, another section, directly north of Luzerne, was divided off into Wyoming County with Tunkhannock the center of legal affairs. By 1878 the village of Slocum Hollow had grown into the thriving town of Scranton and it definitely wanted to have a County of its own, so mother Luzerne acquired another offspring - Lackawanna County, and the honors went to Scranton as County Seat.

These four divisions inevitably reduced the population increase in Luzerne; but vindicated their existence by each one soon showing increase in their own respective populations.

While the County boundaries were undergoing changes so, also, were the townships. The five original "settling towns" that John Durkee had surveyed in 1769 for the Susquehanna Company along the river (Kingston, Hanover, Pittston, Plymouth and Wilkes-Barre) had been expanded, during the Westmoreland County period, into eleven townships. The new ones were Newport, Exeter, Salem, Tioga, Wyalusing and Tunkhannock. (The name "Westmoreland" derived from the fact that Connecticut settlers went west for more land.)

The eleven townships were gradually subdivided, so that by 1920 Luzerne County had, in all, thirty five, many of which as they increased in population and prosperity, in time attained borough status. In some cases two boroughs joined to form one large one as when in 1921, Kingston and Dorranceton combined to become Kingston Borough.

Wilkes-Barre, although still a village (township status) was designated the County seat in 1786 with the formation of Luzerne County. It was incorporated as a borough in 1806, and chartered as the first city in 1871.

Twenty years later, Hazelton, the youngest of Luzerne County's four cities, was given her charter, followed three years later by Pittston, Nanticoke received her city charter thirty two years later.

Nanticoke was named for the Nanticoke Indian tribe that emigrated from Chesapeake Bay when the first white settlers came to that area. They were a branch of the Delawares who were under the jurisdiction of the Iroquois, better known as the "Six Nations."

The Nanticokes were friendly to the Yankees; but only remained in the Valley about seven years when they continued their northward migration.

Nanticoke was originally Lot #27, First Division, of the Hanover Township of the Susquehanna Company. In 1771 a plot containing 136 village lots was given to Captain Lazarus Stewart and William Stewart in recognition of the courageous ans strategic help they and their followers had given the Yankees in fighting the Pannamites. The Paxtang Boys, as they were called, came up the river from a town of that name in Lancaster County and played a vital part in the Yankee-Pennamite Wars.

There were enough settlers in Nanticoke in Colonial times to warrant the existence of a ferry service, a school and a store. In 1793 a grist mill was built, then a saw mill and a forge, called the trip-hammer shop.

In 1825, Colonel Washington Lee was the first to mine coal in Nanticoke. By 1830, the North Branch Canal had reached Nanticoke, from which time it became one of the promising villages of Luzerne County.

The first railroad was completed through Hanover

Township in 1843 and, in 1848, the first locomotive was used below the Ashley Plane. Other railroads entered the region, putting the canal out of business.

The Dundee shaft was sunk in 1857, the first breaker was built in 1859. Others soon followed.

Nanticoke became a borough in January 1874 and a city in January, 1926.

Pittstown, as it was originally called was named for Sir William Pitt, first Earl of Chatham, who, like Wilkes and Barre, supported the colonies in the pre-Revolution debates in Parliament.

In 1770, David Brown and Jeremiah Blanchard were the first white settlers to come to Pittstown. Withing two years so many others had joined them that a rope ferry was established to connect them with the settlers on the west side of the Susquehanna. Thus it became an important ferry point, with a weekly mail route between Wilkes-Barre and Owego. Taverns sprang up to accomodate the travellers. Brown's Block House played a dramatic role at the time of the Wyoming Massacre in 1778. In 1811, Pittston became a "post office" town.

Coal was shipped precariously down the river in arks prior to the opening of the canal in 1832. The Pennsylvania Coal Company, was, however, the first to operate profitably after the canal, railroads, and shaft mining had been developed.

Pittston prospered and grew through the thriving years of the Anthracite industry. It became a borough in 1853 and a city in 1894.

The southern end of Luzerne County, being far removed from the Susquehanna River, does not

share the Colonial history of the Wyoming Valley. During those stirring time, the Hazelton area was a wilderness, inhabited only by red men, except for a few Moravian missionaries who came there to convert the Indians. They knew the place as Hazle Swamp.

However, about 1800, plans were made to build a turnpike from Berwick to Elmire, New York, via Mauch Chunk, and the road was to pass along the southerly part of Nescopeck township, which is now Broad Street in Hazleton.

This point was reached by the road builders in 1804 and a few years later, with the passage of stage coaches over the completed highway, the customary log taverns, or "stage stands" as they were called, appeared, for the accomodation of the travellers. In 1809, one such stand was built at a place called the Forks, (now East Broad Street) where the road from Wilkes-Barre to McKeansburg intersected the Berwick Turnpike. In 1834, there were still only four houses in the vicinity.

In those days, lumbering was the chief industry; but did not lend itself to permanency. Settlements rarely grew from this activity, since the lumber men would hike to the forests, make camp, fell the trees, take them to the nearest saw mill and, with teams of horses or mules, transport them to the Lehigh and Schuykill rivers in time for the spring freshets. Being on the Lehigh, White Haven in thos days was a village of great importance.

After this routine was completed, the men would return home to their farms for the growing season.

In 1810, a saw mill was built on Mill Creek, at what is now the intersection of Mill and Broad

Streets in Hazleton.

The first truly auspicious event that happened in the Hazle Swamp area was in 1813 when several Welshmen from Panther Creek Valley appeared on the scene. They had heard a wild rumor that coal existed somewhere in the region and they came, determined to find it - and find it they did! At a place called Spring Mountain, which soon was to be known as Beaver Meadows.

Two men - Nathan Beach and Tench Coxe - followed on the heels of the Welshmen, prepared to exploit the discovery. Number 3 Hazleton Mine became the site of Beach's operations.

Tench Coxe had such faith in the future of anthracite that, in spite of the failure of the Mauch Chunk coal operations, he bought close to 80,000 acres of land under which he figured the coal must lie. It was his grandson, the Honorable Eckley Brinton Coxe, and descendants, who reaped the financial benefit of his grandfather's perspicacity. Tench's son, Judge Charles S. Coxe, leased the land to others to work, with discouraging results for the lessees. Eckley B. Coxe started mining on his own in 1865, and therby founded the family fortune.

There was plenty of coal at Beaver Meadows; but no way to transport it, except by teams of horses or mules. Some drastic new means had to be devised, so it was decided to follow the example of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company and build a railway from Beaver Meadows to the Lehigh Canal at Mauch Chunk.

The Beaver Meadow Coal Company was chartered in 1830 and three years later a young civil engineer, named Ario Pardee, who had served on the staff of Canvass White, was sent by Mr. White to make the survey for the railroad. Mr.

White, having built the Erie Canal, was an eminent consultant on all railroad and canal construction matters.

Assuming full responsibility, Ario Pardee had the job finished by 1836, and coal was promptly shipped over the new railroad which crossed the mountain by planes, "as it was then supposed engines could not be built to haul trains up such steep grades." (From a letter written by Mr. Pardee on April 6, 1876).

The work completed, Pardee resigned and then became, as it turned out, one of the founders of Hazleton.

He had heard of a blacksmith in Conyngham, John Charles Fitzgerald, who had discovered an out-crop of coal at what was to become known as the "Old Hazleton Mine." Pardee investigated and, finding the coal of good quality, the Hazleton Coal Company was formed with Pardee as Superintendent. In 1840 he resgined his job to become a coal operator on his own.

Robert Miner came from Wilkes-Barre to work as clerk of the Hazleton Coal Company. Fortunately, he kept a diary and in it he recorded events for which there, is no more authentic record, such as:

> "Hazleton Coal Company was incorporated March 18, 1836. November 1, 1836 - - - - Railroad located and contract just assigned.
> Village laid out.
> November 10, 1836, Town lots laid out and sold by company.
> Wages offered for 'good hands' are $16 a month with board on Sundays.
> 1837. First dwelling put up and occupied

by Charles Edson on lot #9, Sq. 11. Then by S. Yost, F. Santee, T. Peeler.
Store and house by L. H. and J. Ingham.
R. Miner hotel.
4th of July, 1837. Moved my family from Wyoming Valley, Plaines, to house I have just finished corner of Broad and Poplar Sts.
First birth of child in Hazleton, October 9, 1837 - W. Apple's; born in house at junction of old state road and turnpike - daughter; 2nd, child of F. Santee, blacksmith; 3rd, my son John Howar Miner.
First corpse interred in graveyard was wife of Th. B. Worthington in fall of 1837.
Locomotive Hazleton on the railroad."

From this diary we learn that Hazleton, as a settlement, began in 1836 with ten houses - so fast did this village grow that 24 years later the population was figured at 4,000, due entirely to the development of anthracite mining. Besides being industrious, the men of the community were patriotic, for no less than 800 enlisted for service in the Civil War.

The first miners in the region were Irish - probably brought in by Mr. White, after his "Big Ditch" was completed.

There were also many Germans among the early settlers. Jacob Drumheller, the tavern keeper at the Forks, was also the pioneer blacksmith and Captain, in 1822, of the Sugarloaf Rifle Company.

In 1837 the Hazleton Coal Company erected a building to be used for all community purposes, such as school, church (the Presbyterians were the first denomination to use it), town and concert hall, etc. It was on the northwest

corner of Church and Green Streets.

Ten years later, Hazleton, having grown into township status, a new school had to be built as a company sponsored one was no longer legal. Ario Pardee built a school in 1847, intended as a "higher" school.

The first brick school was ready for use in 1855, which claimed to be the first "graded" school in the County. Abel Marcy, the principal, had four teachers to assist him.

The first parochial school house was erected in 1874. Sisters of the Catholic Order of Mercy came to Hazleton to conduct it.

An Act making Hazleton a borough was passed in April, 1851; but no election was held until March, 1857, when Abraham Jones, a brother-in-law of Ario Pardee, was elected the first burgess.

Until that time, the village "lock-up" had been a "coal car turned upside down, back of Adam Schauch's property on East Broad Street." It went by the name of Smith-Fulton - in 'honor' of the first two law-breakers who resided there.

The first act of the new municipal fathers was to erect a stone jail, worthy of the dignity of the village's new status. Other municipal buildings followed.

During the Civil War, there being no newspaper in Hazleton, all news from the Front came to Ario Pardee, to be bulletined out to the inhabitants through his Company store.

On January 18, 1866, the Hazleton "Sentinel" made its first appearance. It started as a

weekly; but became a daily in 1870.

The "Plain Speaker" followed on February 6, 1882, as an afternoon paper. It was founded by John H. Dershuck and J. Warren Lewis. The latter withdrew from the enterprise that same year. In 1926, these two papers joined forces and remained in partnership until January, 1962 when Frank Walser acquired the Dershuck interest, thus ending an eighty year Dershuck- "Plain Speaker" tie.

The first Hazleton Bank - that of Pardee, Markle and Grier - opened in 1867, and soon the borough was equipped with all the assets of a thriving community - water works, gas company, later, an electric light plant; library, hospital, opera house, religious patriotic, singing and fraternal societies, a band and a Y.M.C.A.

It was the minging industry that made possible all this growth and prosperity. The pioneer work done by Ario Pardee, was continued by the Markles, Haydens, Coxes and others.

When Ario Pardee died in 1892, the "Plain Speaker" wrote of him: "This was our master man. For more than 50 years he has been foremost in the development of the community. The history of the mining of Anthracite in this field would be told if the life work of Ario Pardee were set out in detail - - - he has done the work of a hundred men. - - He was a man of multitudious interests - - but his main interests were in Hazleton."

During his life, either as a firm, or an individual, Ario Pardee was connected with nine different mining operations in the Hazleton area.

A distinctive feature of the development of

coal mining in Hazleton is that it was done by individuals, rather than corporations. They were independent operators strong enough to withstand the later efforts of the railroads to take over the coal fields.

The outstanding figure that won this battle for the operators was Eckley Brinton Coxe, whose chief interests were centered in Drifton. Mr. Coxe built a railroad which gave the operators of the district access to most of the rail routes out of the coal fields.

George Bushar Markle settled in Hazleton in 1849. The Markle's and the Pardees were next door neighbors, living in a double house, where the Markle building now stands. They were related by marriage. Mr. Markle became Mr. Pardee's "right hand man."

George Markle was a mechanical genius and, as such, won the title "Father of the Breaker" by designing a breaker that prevailed until modern times. He also designed what became known as the "Markle Pump." His mines were at Jeddo and still remain in the Markle family.

In 1924, within a radius of 20 miles, there were 26 collieries and 123 mines operated by 20 different coal companies in the Hazleton area.

Hazleton has the only all-marble public library in Pennsylvania, given by John Markle in memory of his parents.

As the years passed, Hazleton acquired other, diversified industries. Several of them were large textile plants which have since followed the southward trend. Others have passed out of existence; but new ones have come in to replace many of them, thus helping to take up the slack caused by the decline of anthracite mining.

The vital job of bringing new diversified industries to all anthracite communities is progressing well in Hazleton.

On December 4, 1891, Hazleton received its city charter. Quite an achievement, starting with four log houses built along a turnpike only 57 years before!

Countless more pages of historic interest could be written about Hazleton and also about the townships and boroughs of Luzerne County; but time and space do not so permit.

We will return to early Wilkes-Barre, the County seat, for a few more accounts.

The question of a bridge to replace the old ferry, which crossed the river at the foot of Northampton Street, first came up in 1807. When Wilkes-Barre became a borough, it was the Council's responsibility to run the ferry, which it did by leasing it, under strict rules for the lessee, who had to keep the various skiffs and flats in repair, ready for service from sunrise to sunset: for "single persons, horses, cattle, sleighs, sleds, wagons and other carriages." He was fined twelve and a half cents for every ten minutes that a "foot person" was unnecessarily delayed.

The ferry was at the mercy of ice in the winter and floods in the spring; but in spite of such interruptions the lessee, in 1811, put $3000 in the Bank. The ferry house was also a hotel, whose comforting facilities no doubt helped to compensate for adverse weather conditions.

The first permanent bridge in America was built across the Schuykill at Philadelphia in 1798. By 1814, Northumberland had a bridge over the Susquehanna, followed by a second one in 1816

connecting Nescopeck with Berwick.

The Wilkes-Barre bridge project took years to accomplish. The question of location was one hurdle - in those days the residents wanted the bridge to abut on their respective properties, while ferry men were against the idea entirely.

Market Street was finally settled upon, and shares of stock were sold. As the bridge progressed with painful slowness, this method of financing proved inadequate; but State aid was sought in vain.

Two piers were sunk in 1817; but were destroyed the following winter, which was exceptionally severe, freezing the river to unusual thickness. In March, 1817, the highest waters in 40 years were recorded.

By December, 1818, the bridge was opened to traffic, though the sides and roof were not completed. The finishing touches had scarcely been made when, in April, 1819, the Wilkes-Barre end pier gave way and two entire arches crashed into the river leaving the Kingston half intact.

By Christmas of that same year, the ill-fated bridge was stoutly rebuilt and again in use, followed by four uneventful years. Then, in February, 1824, occurred the final catastrophe caused by a wind storm of hurricane velocity. To quote an eye witness, "It took the bridge bodily from the piers and it fell with a tremendous crash on the thick blue ice below, and broke into atoms."

By a cleverly contrived statute, the State aided in the building of the second bridge, fondly known as the "old covered bridge." It was started in February, 1825, and miraculously ready for use by December of that same year when

it was dedicated with much cannonading and sumptous dining. The toll house, sides and roof were completed in the spring of 1826.

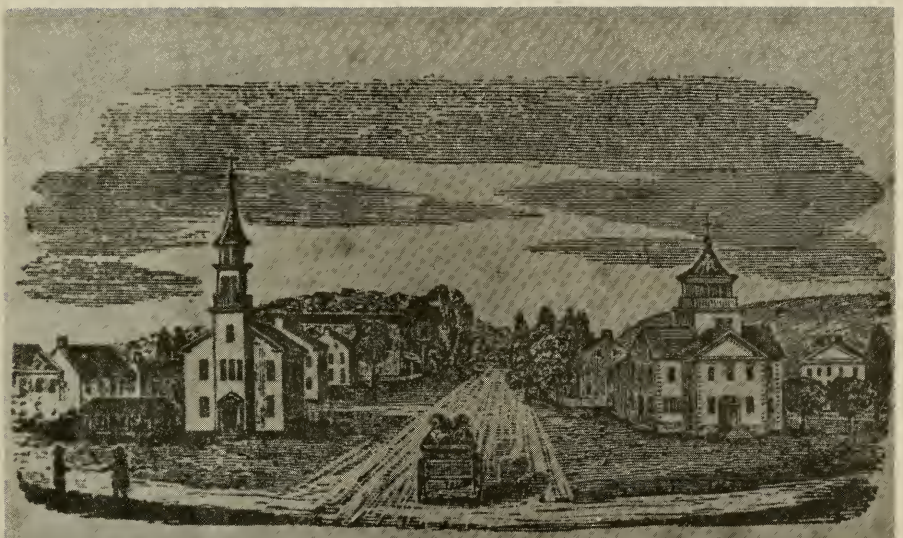
The old covered bridge gave uninterrupted service for 67 years, except for a few weeks for repairs caused by the severe floods of 1861 and 1865.

In September 1888 the steel bridge at North Street was opened and, on January 1, 1892, the old bridge was closed and replaced by a modern steel structure which was ready for use the following April. This served the public well until replaced by the present handsome bridge, designed by Carrere and Hastings, built in 1926.

As the 19th century commenced the census reported 50 houses in Wilkes-Barre with a possible population of 300. Both the Yankees and the Pennamites came from religious backgrounds and, having long felt the need of a Meeting House, plans for such were voted in April, 1791. Voluntary contributions came from the denominations interested and the site chosen was the southeast corner of the Public Square.

The building process suffered from many setbacks, from lack of money, to being struck by lightning. Meanwhile, the Rev. Jacob Johnson having died, it was not until 1806 that the Union Meeting House, with a new pastor installed, was ready for regular services.

It was a fine frame building with a bell tower and tall, graceful steeple. It became known, fondly, as "Old Ship Zion," and the silvery tones of its bell - so it was said - could be heard from Nanticoke to Pittston. It not only called the congreations to their services; but also rang the curfew each night, ending with the day of the month and tolled at all funerals,



Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, 1845. View up North Main Street. Old Ship Zion (1800) on the left, and the County Buildings in the rear. On right, the old Court House and old Academy.

ringing out the age of the deceased.

For eleven years services were held in the Old Ship Zion peacefully enough, when, human beings - even Christians - being as they are, a break came, caused by the wife of the Episcopal lay reader, who, at Christmas, trimmed the pulpit and balconies with evergreens. The Puritanical Congregationalists were outraged, and promptly tore the trimmings down. As a result of the row that ensued, the Episcopalians eventually built their own, the first sectarian church in Wilkes-Barre, although it was not until June, 1824, that it was dedicated. The site was where St. Stephens Episcopal Church now stands.

It was not long before a feud sprang up between the Methodists and the Congregationalists, the latter locking the former out of the church. This ended by the Methodists, for the sake of harmony, moving into the second floor of the adjacent Court House, where the Baptist "Society" occasionally held services in the Court room.

The Congregationalists became Presbyterians under the ministry of Dr. Nicholas Murray (1829), whose congregationbecame so large it was divided in two - those on the west side of the river erecting a church of their own in Kingston, while the east siders built the First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre, on the site of the Osterhout Library, dedicated in 1833. (This early church was later replaced in 1851 by a second one, which we know now as the Osterhout Libaray. The architect of this second structure was Richard Upjohn, who designed Trinity Church on Wall Street, New York City. Our church, here, was said to be one of the finest examples of pure Gothic architecture in the country.)

Mr. Issac S. Osterhout died in 1881, leaving in his will provisions for the creation of a free public library. When the trustees heard that the Presbyterians were planning to build a new, larger church they bought the one being abandoned and, on January, 1889, at 10 a.m. the Osterhout Free Library opened its doors to the public.

The new, present Presbyterian Church was first used for Easter service in April, 1890; but was not dedicated until March, 1894.

The first Baptist Church was built of brick in 1847 on Northampton Street, between Franklin and River, and boasted the first town clock in the borough. It was dedicated in September, 1848.

The Methodists held their services in the Court House for nine years (1822-1831), while Old Ship Zion became known as the Presbyterian Church. Seeking belated justice, the Methodists offered to buy the Presbyterians share in the Church for $1,000, or "take out" their own, equal share. The Presbyterians eventually agreed to sell, and used the money to erect their own church.

In time, the Methodists outgrew Old Ship Zion and built a brick church of their own on Franklin Street, which was dedicated, debt free, in October, 1849. The building of these original houses of worship represented years of earnest consideration and sincere self-sacrifice.

When, in 1819, the Government started keeping immigration records, it was disclosed that 8,385 aliens had arrived in the United States of whom nearly half were from Ireland. Famine was one of the chief causes for their coming.

The first to appear in Wyoming Valley came during the canl building era. After the Irish, a wave of German immigrants followed - escaping religious persecution chiefly and most of them settled in Pennsylvania.

Wilkes-Barre was a mission of the Catholic Church of Maryland as early as 1787. The Rev. James Pallentz came up the river and went on as far far north as Elmira.

With the openings of the mines there was a large increase in the Catholic population and, in 1842, it was decided that a church must be built - services had previously been held in private homes. A "large commodious frame building" was soon erected on Canal Street (now Pennsylvania Avenue). Within a year an addition was necessary. In 1845 a brick church was built on South Pennsylvania Avenue.

The Germans did not have such smooth sailing. Their first congregation was composed of Lutherans and Reformed Church was used exclusively. As Lutheran arrivals increased in number they were not happy with this arrangement, and as soon as they could, they built a little frame church of their own on South Washington Street, near South (1846), while the Reformed members laid the corner stone of a new brick church in 1849. These two congregations, small in number, went through some difficult years before, in the end, becoming finally established.

During the Revolution, there were several thousand Jews in American cities; but it was not until 1839, that the first one arrived in Wyoming Valley. He was Martin Long, from Pretzfeldt, Bavaria, who was later joined by his brothers Marx and then Simon. The first Jewish child to die in this area had to be

taken to Easton for burial, following which the pioneer Jews made burial provisions in the early 1840's. In 1848 the congregation of B'nai B'rith was incorporated at the November term of Court and the first Synagogue was dedicated in 1849 on South Washington Street. This was in continuous use until 1960 when the congregation moved to a fine, modern edifice in Kingston.

Of all the early churches in the Wyoming Valley, there is but one that has survived to this day - "The Old Church at Forty Fort." It was the first church completed and opened for service in northeastern Pennsylvania in June, 1808 - Old Ship Zion was not completed until 1812. The simplicity of its Colonial lines, achieved by the then much admired skill of "square rule", insured its enduring charm.

Built jointly by the Methodists and Presbyterians of the West side - the former greatly out numbered the latter - they made quite a record for harmonious worship until they outgrew the Meeting House and built separate churches of their own.

The first steam boat to cross the Atlantic was in 1819. The first to come up the Susquehanna River, the "Codorus", left from Wrightsville, some distance south of Harrisburg and appeared around the bend in Wilkes-Barre in November, 1825 amid the charge of cannon, loud cheers, martial music and the pealing of church bells. She drew 8 inches of water with 40 persons aboard. Her life was a short and gay one, never being used for commercial purposes.

Other Steam boats followed the "Cordrus," tooting up the river as far as Owego. Their history on this part of the Susquehanna is a short and sad one, for two blew up while others were broken up by ice jams. The river

was too shallow, too full of rapids and the season too short for profitable navigation. However, a service did exist for a number of years following the Civil War, furnishing local transportation from points between Nanticoke and Pittston. The steam boat landing was opposite the old "Wyoming Valley Hotel" on South River Street below Market, where Chapman and Parrish Halls of Wilkes College now stand.

The culm that started filling up the already shallow river, with the increased mining of coal, added to the difficulty and danger of navigation; but what really put the steam boat out of business was the coming of that new invention - the trolley car. The good ship "Mayflower" sank in 1894, and thus ended the steam boat era in Luzerne County.

When Wilkes-Barre became a borough in 1806, every house was built of wood, and the only protection in case of fire was an occasional fire bucket scattered around the town. The next year, the Council appointed a committee to deal with the problem. The year after, a second committee was authorized to buy the patent rights of a "water machine," which they did for $8.00. The year after that, a third committee was to look into "the propriety of procuring a fire engine." Ten months later, the committee reported,..."it was expedient to have a fire engine procured." An Act to buy said machine passed first reading and that ended the idea.

Eleven years passed, when the "Davy Crockett" was hauled here from Philadelphia at a cost of $34.48. It turned out to be a pump originally intended for wetting down canvas sails on vessels during a calm!

In 1819 a committee wrote the Council requesting,..."from 40 to 60 additional feet of good,

substantial, fire hose, made of harness leather; one long ladder, 40 to 45 feet; 25 fire buckets for engine; 4 'active and discreet' citizens for fire wardens to act in concert with the fire company in directing a supply of water, and one or more fire hooks, 25 or 35 feet in length."

These requests were granted and then another ten years passed, during which two wells were dug - one on the Square and another on West Market Street.

After a tavern burned down in 1830, the Council appealed to the County for aid and, receiving $400, bought a new fire engine (total cost, $500), the "Reliance", which arrived in November, 1831.

Eighteen years passed when a third engine was purchased (1849). It was one of the first suction engines ever built and considered a "marvel of efficiency." This was called the "Triton."

These three engines were given different names, according to the name of the group volunteers using them. Thus the Davy Crockett became the "Neptune," and in 1865 was renamed the "Wyoming." The Triton was the "Good Will" and the Reliance the "Protector."

In April, 1867 a truly devastating fire started on West Market Street, burning up and down North and South Franklin Streets from 6:30 in the morning until late afternoon. The only building to survive in the area was the Wyoming National Bank, which alone was built of brick.

Even after this holocaust, three years passed without any special action taken, although this was not due to lack of desire or interest, but

to the scarcity of funds, both private and public, due to the Civil War.

Finally, in the fall of 1870, Mr. Augustus C. Laning, at his own expense, presented the community with a "modern" steam engine, the "Mechanic."

The following May (1871), Wilkes-Barre was advanced from a borough to the status of a city and a new set of officials was elected. In 1874, they converted the old volunteer system into a paid department, the beginning of the present day modern, efficient Fire Department.

At first, only drivers and stokers were on a salary - the others were paid 50 cents an hour for actual time spent fighting fires. Stanley Woodward was the first chief of the department, serving until elected to the bench of the Luzerne County Court in 1880. Charles B. Metzger succeeded him, followed by Thaddeus S. Hillard.

In March, 1836, a mass meeting was held in the old Academy on the Square to discuss erecting a new building. Countless meetings and seven years later a fine new brick school house replaced the exhausted old one (1843).

Meanwhile the need of a girl's school was severely felt and, after financial difficulties closed a small school in a private home on South River Street, where the Jewish Community Center now stands, it was decided to incorporate a school for girls, to be called the Wilkes-Barre Female Seminary, which would share the Academy building, using completely separate rooms, including a separate entrance. In 1845, the Rev. A. H. Hand came from his Presbyterian Church in Berwich to become principal.

This arrangement lasted nine years, when, the building unable to hold more children, provision had to be made for the girls. The Court granted a charter for a "literary institution to be known as the Wilkes-Barre Institute under the direction of the Presbytery of Luzerne."

A large three-story brick building, with the customary cupola, was erected on South River Street where Barre, Butler and Ashley Halles of Wilkes College now stand, the land being given by Henry M. Fuller and George M. Hollenback. It opened in the fall of 1854 and remained there until 1881, when the trustees purchased the home of the late Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, George W. Woodard, at 78 South Franklin Street, which housed the old Wilkes-Barre Institute until it moved into its handsome new building in Forty Fort in 1925.

In 1939, the Wilkes-Barre Institute and the Harry Hillman Academy (formerly the Wilkes-Barre Academy) merged to become the Wilkes-Barre Day School which, in turn, combined with the Wyoming Seminary to become the Wyoming Seminary Day School in 1951.

The Wyoming Seminary was founded by the Oneida (Methodist) Conference in 1844. By competitive contributions between Wilkes-Barre and Kingston, the latter place won as the location. A handsome three-story brick building (with cupola) was erected with a chapel, "ladies hall," private male study room and a primary department. In its 118 years, only seven men have filled the office of President, to which exceptional continuity is attributed a large part of the Seminary's consistently successful history. Each president, or head master, has maintained faithfully the high standards of scholarship and character established by the original president - Reuben Nelson.

Pennsylvania, as a state, did not adopt a system of free education until 1834, when the Common School Law was passed.

However, under the laws of New England, a grant for a township organization required the establishment of both a church and school. Thus, the Yankees when making their first survey after settling in the Valley, set apart a 500 acre lot for school purposes. A record of 1773 reads: "The Town voted a tax of 3 pence on the pound in support of a free school in each township." This was 61 years before the state passed its Common School Law.

While the children received an elementary education the desire for learning did not stop there. As many families as could manage it, sent their sons to college, and having come from Connecticut the college was, of course, Yale. The first Wyoming Yankee to matriculate in New Haven was Daniel Dana in 1777, son of Anderson Danna, Sr., who, the following year, was killed in the Massacre.

So it was that the settlers of this Wyoming frontier region gained a reputation for being a literate, cultured people.

As the mining of coal grew into a huge industry the local labor supply, nearly all from the British Isles, became insufficient. Also, many of the miners prospered and were able to go on to other pursuits. The need for new men to work in the mines was filled by a wave of immigration from Central Europe. The original New England culture became an admixture of many cultures, chiefly Polish, Lithuanian, Czech, Austrian, Hungarian, Russian and Italian. In a small way, Luzerne County became a premature United Nations.

The children of the so-called "Newer Nationalities" took advantage of our public school system, but only rarely was one able to go away to college. Proud were all children who were able to graduate from high school in those days. For a young man looking for work, a high school diploma was an 'open sesame' for any number of jobs. As for the girls, a higher education was not even considered for them. They either stayed home and helped their mothers, or found jobs and went to work themselves until they married.

But times have changed, and a college diploma is almost a must for a boy or girl looking for work in our modern, technical world.

By great good fortune the youth of Luzerne County have now, within their reach three excellent sources of college degrees right here at home.

First to be established was College Misericordia a liberal arts college for women, by the Sisters of Mercy, who first came to Wilkes-Barre from Pittsburgh in 1875. The original motherhouse was at St. Mary's Convent on South Washington Street. In 1914 the Sisters of Mercy bought 100 acres near Dallas, 9 miles from Wilkes-Barre, but, because of World War I, ground was not broken for the first building until June, 1921.

The college opened on September 24, 1924 with 50 students and a faculty of 15 regular members and 3 lecturers. It received its State Charter in January, 1927. It has steadily increased and prospered and now has 10 modern buildings equipped to give professional and vocational training for teaching home economics, music, nursing, science, and secretarial work, in addition to liberal arts.

In the fall of 1962, College Misericordia had an enrollment of 834 full time students and 366 part time, with a faculty of 70 full and 5 part time members.

In 1933 Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, wishing to establish a Junior College in an effective location, selected Wilkes-Barre, and that same fall opened up on the third floor of the former Wilkes-Barre Business College Building at 29 West Northampton Street. One year later they rented the entire building.

The first gift house, at 184 South River Street, was presented to the college in 1937 by Admiral Harold R. Stark, former Chief of Naval Operation during World War II, followed that same year, by the house at 120 South River Street, gift of Mrs. John N. Conyngham.

By 1947, the Junior College had grown and prospered to such an extent the state granted it a Charter as a non-sectarian, co-educational, 4-year liberal arts college. It was re-named Wilkes College.

Wilkes College has continued to grow, acquiring by gift or purchase many more buildings, used for dormitories and class rooms, in the residential district of Wilkes-Barre, two blocks of which front on the Susquehanna River. In addition, it has built two large modern buildings, one a gymnasium, the other a science hall, to which a new wing is being built to provide more laboratory space.

At present there are 1,234 day and 660 night students, with a full time faculty of 90 members, and a part time faculty of 22 instructors.

Wilkes College benefits Luzerne County not only by offering the opportunity to obtain BA and BS

degrees to students ambitious for an education, but it also serves by providing an Area Research Center which cooperates with county and city development agencies.

Through its Institute of Municipal Government, a branch of the Political Science Department, it offers an educational program for public officials, and under the National Science Foundation, class room instruction for high school teachers in the mathematics and science of the 20th century. The professional leadership, as well as some of the members, of the Wilkes-Barre Philharmonic Orchestra, is an outgrowth of the Department of Music. Wilkes College lends a large and constructive hand in producing the annual Wyoming Valley Fine Arts Fiesta, a four year program of music, drama and the arts, given in May of each year on the Public Square, in whcih the many cultural groups of the area participate.

In 1946, at the invitation of the presiding Bishop of the Scranton Diocese, ten Holy Cross Fathers, from the University of Notre Dame, came to Wilkes-Barre to establish a college for men. It opened in autumn, with a Charter from the state as a four year liberal arts institution, granting BA and BS degrees, and was named Kings College.

In its turn, Kings College also grew and prospered. It, too, has made excellent use of existing buildings, with the addition of a very large new one, which provided many facilities, such as scientific and research laboratories, an auditorium, book store, student lounge, cafeteria, class rooms and lecture hall, and a library that occupies the entire fourth floor and is, among other features, one of the bibliographical centers in Pennsylvania, the other being in Philadelphia. This building

joins the main building, a former 6-story office building, at 133 North River Street. Kings College has 1,000 students and a faculty of 69 members. Kings College and College Misericordia have combined their night classes in which there are 366 students.

The collective contribution made by these three colleges to the educational, spiritual, civic, financial, industrial population improvement and well-being of Luzerne County is incalculable. Their presence may be the most fortunate development the area has experienced since the discovery of anthracite and may well prove to be more enduring.

Thanks to these colleges this region still deserves the reputation of being a cultural community. Any family moving or living here can find an accessible outlet for any talented member thereof, within any age limit, for, in addition to what the three colleges have to offer, there is also an excellent Little Theater group, one of the oldest in the country, any number of bands and singing societies; an outstanding Philharmonic Orchestra; an active Art League; an agile Ballet Guild, and several literary societies of ancient vintage, all happily and vigorously engaged in the pursuit of culture.

As for the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, it is the oldest local Historical Society in continuous existence in the United States, as opposed to State or National.

Briefly told, with many tales omitted, of necessity, this is the story of Luzerne County, centered largely in and around the Wyoming Valley, in which the little pioneer settlement with the odd name of Wilkes-Barre grew up to become the County seat and the heart of the

largest Anthracite mining region in the world.

Millions of years before Nature endowed the Wyoming Valley and Luzerne County with exterior marks of beauty, she had hidden away, below the surface, a rare gift of inestimable value which was to lie dormant until the coming of the early settlers from Connecticut. This special gift, of course, is anthracite. The question of by whom it was discovered and just where is controversial; but it is safe to say "it was known to exist in Luzerne County before it was known to exist elsewhere in America."

The Indians called it "stone coal," and though they knew it would burn, they had not discovered how to make use of it. It is mentioned in the Susquehanna Company records that John Jenkins discovered coal here in 1762. He was making surveys, prior to the first brief appearance of the Connecticut Yankees in 1763.

When the first settlers to remain - the famous "Forty" in 1769 - arrived, Obidiah Gore, Jr. and his brother Daniel, with the aid of bellows, first used coal in their black smith forge. They found it gave more intense heat which lasted longer than charcoal.

Caol in the Pottsville basin was first mentioned in 1770.

It is known that some 20 tons of coal, from the Mill Creek opening, was shipped down the river in bateaux to Kelso Ferry (opposite Harrisburg) in 1776 and used in Carlisle, at the government arsenal, for the casting of cannon for use in the Revolutionary War.

The Lehigh Coal Mining Company of Mauch Chunk was the first serious commercial venture. In 1803 the company shipped five arks, as the raft-

like coal carrying boats were called, of which three were wrecked down the Lehigh and Delaware Rivers to Philadelphia. Since no one would buy the "black rocks," the two surviving ark loads were given to the city pumping station, where, after serving only to put out the fire, the donors were looked upon as imposters, and the black stones were broken up and used for side walks.

The first commercial venture in Wyoming was when Abijah Smith, late of Derby, Connecticut, bought 75 acres of coal land for $500 on Ranson's Creek in Plymouth Township. In the spring of 1807, with a pick and wedge, he drove a V-shaped opening in an outcrop vein, mined and loaded some 50 tons of coal on an ark, safely floated it down the river to Columbia, in Lancaster County, where his mighty efforts were doomed to disappointment, for no one would buy his coal, all the blacksmiths preferred charcoal.

Fate, however, came to the rescue of Abijah for, in February, 1808, Judge Jesse Fell made history by burning anthracite in his tavern, without the aid of an air blast. Judge Fell figured that if coal were given a draft by natural means, it would burn by itself, and so he experimented by putting coal in an open grate in a fireplace. Placing the kindling on top - the custom in igniting charcoal - he and his friends watched; but nothing happened. Disappointed, they left the room. Later, a rosy light was noticed coming through the windows. They hurried to the room where they found a warm glowing fire in the grate - the first domestic use of anthracite.

When this exciting news reached Connecticut, Abijah's brother, John Smith, hastened to Wyoming, bought 120 acres of coal land adjoining Abijah's and the Smith Brothers were in busi-

ness. They are considered to be the pioneers in the industry; since they were not only the first to start; but were the first to operate, continuously, and with ultimate success, until their death in 1825.

The arks floated the caol to Havre de Grace where the Susquehanna flows into the Chesapeake, where it was loaded on sloops which sailed it to New York City. The arks were sold for lumber, as they could not be poled up the river. Hundreds of these arks were thus built and sold along the river bank, and a thriving boat-building business sprang up in Plymouth, which later built canal boats as well.

The cost of transporation was so high that 'sea coal' (imported from Wales) sold cheaper in New York than Pennsylvania coal.

When the War of 1812 stopped the import of 'sea coal," it gave anthracite a chance to be introduced; but it took years to establish the hard coal business on a profitable basis. In 1815 George Carey (for whom Carey Avenue in Wilkes-Barre is named) rafted 40 tons of anthracite down to Harrisburg where he finally sold it for $10. Discouraged, he waited five years and tried again. This time he could not find a buyer so, disgusted, he dumped it in the river.

However, from these disheartening beginnings the anthracite industry in Luzerne County grew into a fabulous empire, as all who are alive today well know.

The need for men to mine the coal brought about an influx of people into the area, not only from other parts of the United States; but from Europe. Many of their descendants are still prominently identified in Luzerne County.

The building of canals expedited transportation which gave the industry a great boost, and when it was found that anthracite could be used for such purposes as steam boilers and iron-smelting furnaces, the demand increased prodigiously.

Like the stage-coach and conestoga wagon, the canals, however, were in time to be superseded by the building of railroads and, with this solution to the transportation problem, the coal industry was really on its way.

A network of railway transportation systems, many of which were constructed for the sole purpose of providing adequate and dependable carriage of anthracite from the mountainous producing area to the Atlantic seaboard, New England, southeastern Canada and the midwest came into being. The first passenger car to enter Wilkes-Barre came from the canalterminus at White Haven, over the newly laid tracks to Mountain Top, down the sensationally constructed Ashley Planes, at the foot of which two mules were attached to it, who pulled it to the station at the Corner of South and West River Streets, where the new Fine Arts building of Wilkes College will be built. The date was May 23, 1843, the sponsor of the venture was the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company. The arrival was given a huge reception, amid the booming of cannon, the drinking of toasts and wide-spread rejoicing.

The Lehigh Valley railroad was chartered in 1846. Others followed and at the height of the anthracite producing economy, nine railroads served the region. Well over 99 percent of all of the anthracite produced in North and South America, combined, originated in the six contiguous counties in northeastern Pennsylvania, of which Luzerne was easily the most

important, having more than 45% of its square miles underlaid with anthracite.

As early as 1860 over ten and a half million tons of coal were shipped out of the area. The total for the industry in 1918 was one hundred million. In 1961 it was twenty million. Will gas and oil some day be superseded by atomic power? Jet planes are already replacing propeller type - will jets give way to space ships? And after that? Who knows what marvels lie ahead.

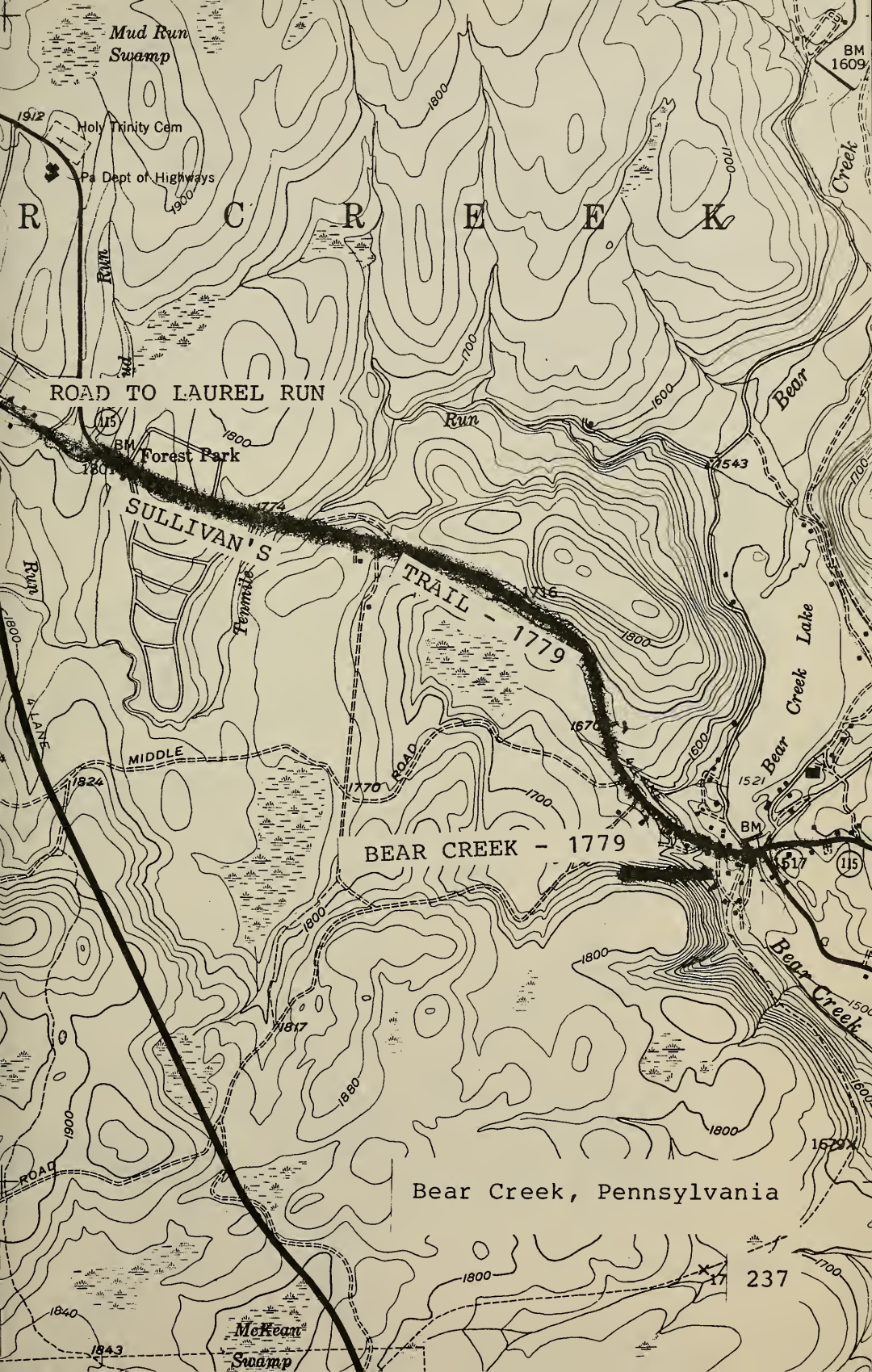
Historic Spots of Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania[1]

The road from Easton over the mountains, through Laurel Run into Wilkes-Barre, in general, follows the line of Sullivan's march to Wyoming Valley on his way to the Genesee region to crush the Six Nations as a reprisal for the Wyoming Massacre and to prevent further occurrences of the kind.

Just leaving Bear Creek, on the left of the road as one approaches Wilkes-Barre is a boulder monument, erected in 1898 by the Luzerne County Committee of the Colonial Dames of Pennsylvania, to mark the site of a bridge built by Sullivan's army. Its inscription is:

> This stone marks the site of a bridge built by Sullivan's Army on its march against the Six Nations, 1779. It was presented by Mr. Albert Lewis to the Wilkes-Barre Branch of the Colonial Dames, and by them inscribed, 1898.

The present entrance to the Valley, over the East End Boulevard, lies north of the old route taken by Sullivan in order to secure an easier grade down the mountain. From this road the only way to reach the Laurel Run route is to leave the concrete road at the crest of the mountain, turning left on a dirt road. After passing the railroad station at Laurel Run, a short distance brings one to the monument on the left erected by Mrs. John Case Phelps in 1898, and now under the care of the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the D.A.R. It marks the spot where three officers and two privates in the advance guard of Sullivan's army were ambushed


Mud Run
Swamp
1912
Holy Trinity Cem
Pa Dept of Highways
1900
R C R E E K
Run
Rd
ROAD TO LAUREL RUN
115
1800
BM
Forest Park
1801
SULLIVAN'S
TRAIL - 1779
Pennsylvania
Run
1774
1736
1800
1670
1600
1543
Bear
Run
1700
Bear Creek Lake
1521
BM
517
115
BEAR CREEK - 1779
4 LANE
MIDDLE
ROAD
1824
1770
1700
1800
1817
1880
1900
ROAD
1840
1843
McKeam
Swamp
Bear Creek
1500
1600
1800
Bear Creek, Pennsylvania
17
237

and killed by Indians. Its inscription is:

> Near this spot, April 23, 1779, Captain Davis, Lieutenant Jones, Corporal Butler and two privates belonging to the advance guard of the expedition under Major General John Sullivan were scalped, tomahawked and speared by the Indians. Their bodies were buried here. The bodies of the two officers were reinterred in Wilkes-Barre, July 29, 1779.

[1]Wyoming Historical and Geological Society

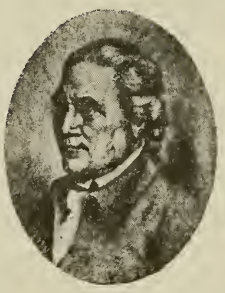
The first permanent settlement of Wilkes-Barre was on May 12, 1769. It was laid out in 1770, and named by Major John Durkee for John Wilkes and Colonel Isaac Barre. The Bourough was incorporated in 1806, and the city was chartered in 1871.

On the Wilkes-Barre River Common on South River Street south of West Market Street is a Historic Stone marking the site of Fort Wyoming. The tablet attached to the stone bears this inscription:

> This stone marks the site of Fort Wyoming, built by the Proprietary forces January, 1771; captured by the Connecticut settlers the same year and used as a defense against the Indians. Rebuilt in 1778 and became an important military post during the Revolutionary War. Erected by Wyoming Valley Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, June 14, 1899.

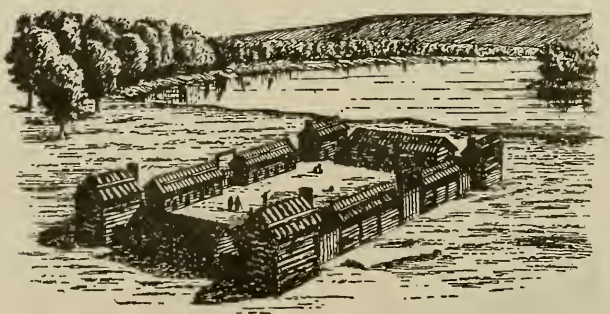
Laurel Run, Pennsylvania
239

Hon. John Wilkes



Col. Isaac Barre

Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, 1845. View up North Main Street. Old Ship Zion (1800) on the left, and the County Buildings in the rear. On right, the old Court House and old Academy.



Fort Wyoming on Wilkes-Barre Common

From the western end of Northampton Street a ferry across the river was the only means of reaching Kingston and the other settlements on the west side of the river from Wilkes-Barre. This was known in Colonial times as Yarrington's Ferry, it being conducted by Abel Yarrington, whose house stood on the Kingston side near the river. A road, the continuation of Northampton Street, was intersected at a point in Kirby Park less than twelve hundred feet from Market Street by a road known as the Flats Road, which extended southerly across the river at the ford above the island and then followed the line of the old river road on the Wilkes-Barre side. This flats road extended northerly near the sister elms and reached the high ground near the present Pierce Street in Kingston. It followed this bluff to Forty Fort, then called the village of Kingston. The continuation of Northampton Street between Kingston and Plymouth Townships was intersected at the present Hillside Avenue by the Ross Hill Road, which ran to Plymouth.

At the junction of West South and West River Streets stand a stone bearing the following inscription:

> Fort Durkee was built 82 feet southwest of this stone in 1769 by the Connecticut settlers a defense against the Indians. It became a military post in the contest over the jurisdiction and title to the Wyoming lands between the settlers and the Proprietary Government. Erected by Wyoming Valley Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, June 14, 1889.

Below the Fort Durkee stone on the river bank is a monument marking the headquarters of Major General John Sullivan. This site has been marked by the Wilkes-Barre Historical Commission.

On the Common were mobilized the entire forces of the Sullivan Expedition, numbering some 4000 Continental troops. The expedition moved up the river on July 31, 1779, and destroyed the villages of the Seneca Indians in Western New York, thus avenging Wyoming and destroying the granary of the British forces. Returning to Wilkes-Barre in September, 1779, the victorious American forces were disbanded. The monument carries the seal of the City of Wilkes-Barre and the following inscription:[1]

> Near this site stood the markee of Major General John Sullivan, of Washington's Army, during the mobilization of Continental forces in preparation for military service against the Six Nations. This markee was used as headquarters of the Sullivan expedition in May, June, and July, 1779. From it General Sullivan departed at the head of some 400 Continental troops, July 31, 1779, blazing what is now known as the Sullivan Trail to Elmira, New York. Returning to Wilkes-Barre after successfully crushing Indian allies of the British, who were largely responsible for the Wyoming Massacre, General Sullivan disbanded his army from these headquarters, October 7, 1779.

The Sullivan Expedition, mobilized along this River Common during the summer of 1779, was composed of the following Continental troops of the line: First, Second and Third New Hampshire Regiments, Second New York Regiment, First, Second, Third and Fifth New Jersy Regiments, Armand's Corps of French Volunteers, Hubley's Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment, Proctor's Pennsylvania Artillery, the "German

Regiment of the Continental Line," recruited in Pennsylvania and Maryland, Captain Simeon Spalding's Westmoreland Independent Company, Captain John Franklin's Company of Westmoreland Militia.

[1]Markee=Marquee=An officer's field tent

These troops, brigaded under Generals Hand, Poor and Maxwell, left this side July 31, 1779, commanded by Major General John Sullivan, to forever destroy the power and prestige of the Six Nations. Erected by the City of Wilkes-Barre, 1927.

At approximately the intersection of Riverdale Drive and Shelton Street stood the castle of Teedyuscung King of the Delawares. The old king, the greatest Indian orator of his generation, was burned to death in this castle on April 17, 1763, by emissaries of the Six Nations.

At 130 South Main Street, the Pickering House was located.

Colonel Timothy Pickering, Quartermaster General during the Revolution, erected this building in 1787 while a citizen of Wilkes-Barre. He was the first prothonotary of Luzerne County, and its representative to the Constitutional Convention of 1790. He was Commissioner of Pennsylvania to adjust disputes resulting from this house by Connecticut sympathizers. In 1791 he was appointed by President Washington as Postmaster General of the United States, and was successfully Secretary of War and Secretary of State. General William Ross, who July 4, 1788, effected the release of Colonel Pickering from his abductors, purchased this house in 1796, and resided here for a period of forty-six years. This tablet was erected by the City of

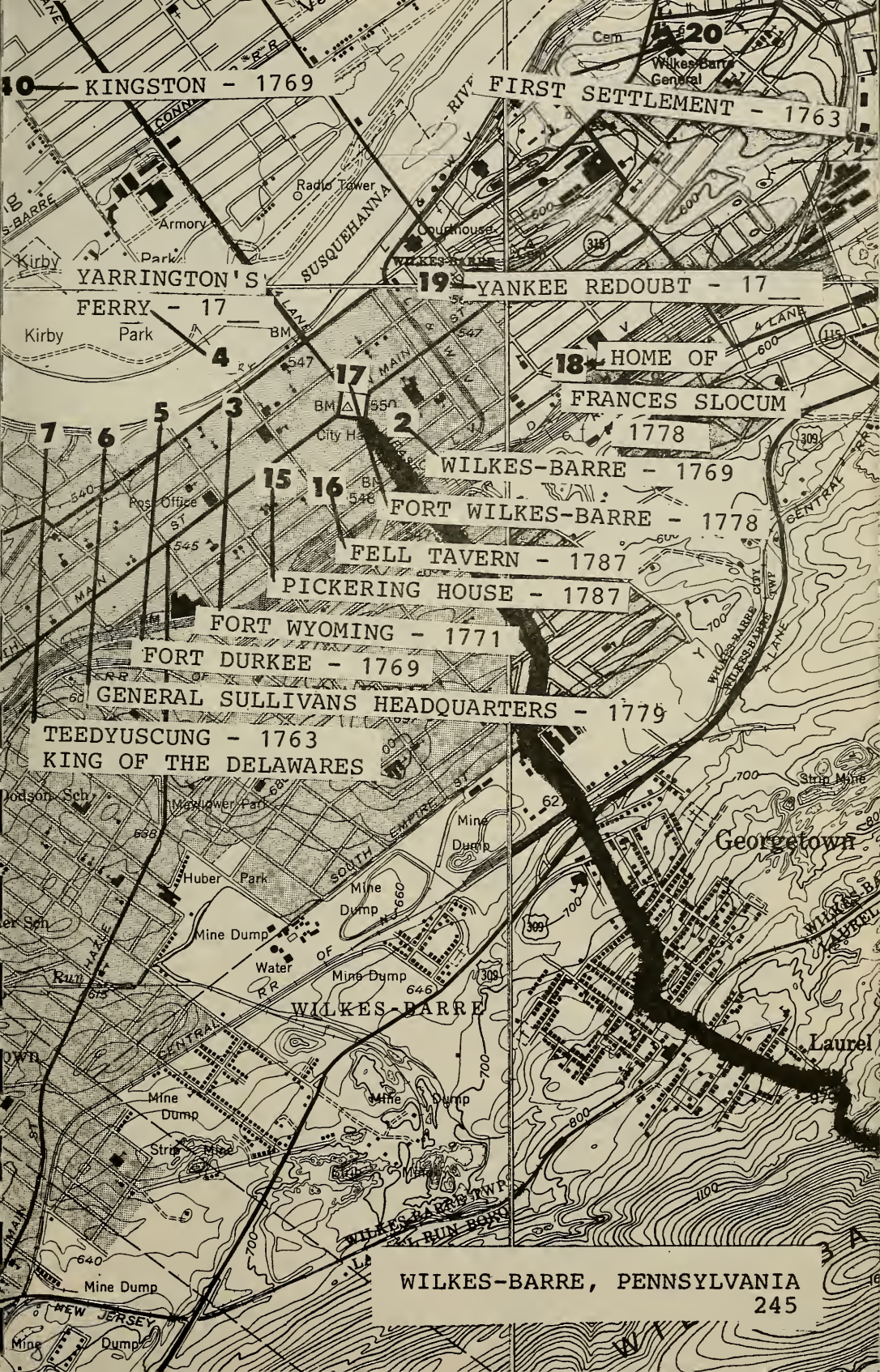
Wilkes-Barre in 1925.

In January, 1772, Eleazer Carey was admitted a settler in the "Forty" or Kingston Township. In 1773 he purchased a lot of thirty acres in Wilkes-Barre near the Hanover line, extending from the present Carey avenue northwest to the river. Here he settled, and as early as 1789 the settlement hear was locally known as "Careytown." The road leading to it from near the Wilkes-Barre town plot was called Careytown Road. In March, 1887, its name was changed to Carey Avenue. Eleazer's son, Nathan, escaped from the battle by hiding under a shelving bank of the river and swimming to Wilkes-Barre after nightfall.

Captain Lazarus Stewart, leader of the "Paxtang Boys," who had acquired a right, or share in the Susquehanna Company, in the autumn of 1771, began the erection of a block house in Hanover. The first building erected in the township by a settler under the Susquehanna Company stood on a slight rise of ground a few rods from the river bank, a short distance below the Wilkes-Barre-Hanover boundary line. It was built of logs a story and a half high, with four rooms on the ground floor, with ample space on the floor above for the convenience of the occupants. The upper part projected beyond the walls of the first story. This "overshoot," as it was called enabled the defenders of the house to protect the approach from assaults by attacking parties.

In June, 1748, a band of Nanticoke Indians (about 80) came up the river from the mouth of the Juniata in ten canoes and established their wigwams on the south side of the Susquehanna in the lower Hanover Flats.

The present Nanticoke was laid out in 1793. The Bourough was incorporated in 1874, and the City was chartered in 1927.


KINGSTON - 1769
FIRST SETTLEMENT - 1763
YARRINGTON'S FERRY - 17__
YANKEE REDOUBT - 17__
HOME OF FRANCES SLOCUM 1778
WILKES-BARRE - 1769
FORT WILKES-BARRE - 1778
FELL TAVERN - 1787
PICKERING HOUSE - 1787
FORT WYOMING - 1771
FORT DURKEE - 1769
GENERAL SULLIVANS HEADQUARTERS - 1779
TEEDYUSCUNG - 1763
KING OF THE DELAWARES
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA
Georgetown
Laurel
Kirby Park
Armory
Radio Tower
Courthouse
Wilkes-Barre General
Post Office
Huber Park
Mine Dump
Water
Strip Mine
Dodson Sch
Mayflower Park
SUSQUEHANNA
CENTRAL
NEW JERSEY
WILKES-BARRE TWP
WILKES-BARRE CITY
4 LANE
2
3
4
5
6
7
15
16
17
18
19
20

LARKSVILLE
Pumping Station
Walen Hill Sch
Radio Tower
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER
EDWARDSVILLE
Mine Dump
Mine Dump
Mine Dump
Brown
Plymouth Junction
LARKSVILLE
Richard
Island
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER
Levee
14
WIOMIC TOWN - 17__
Miner Park
Meyers High Sch
8
CAREYTOWN - 1789
CAREY
Sewage Disposal
STEWART'S BLOCK HOUSE - 1771
9
Lynnwood
Breslau
WILKES-BARRE
CONNE
DIVISION
PENNSYLVANIA
Lee Park
CAREY Creek
CENTRAL
Mine Dump
Solomon
Mine Dump
Mine Dump
ROAD
RIVER
Oak Lawn Cemetery
Buttonwood
(ELECTRIC)
Mine Dump
St Marys Cemetery
Maple Hill Cem
Franklin Junction
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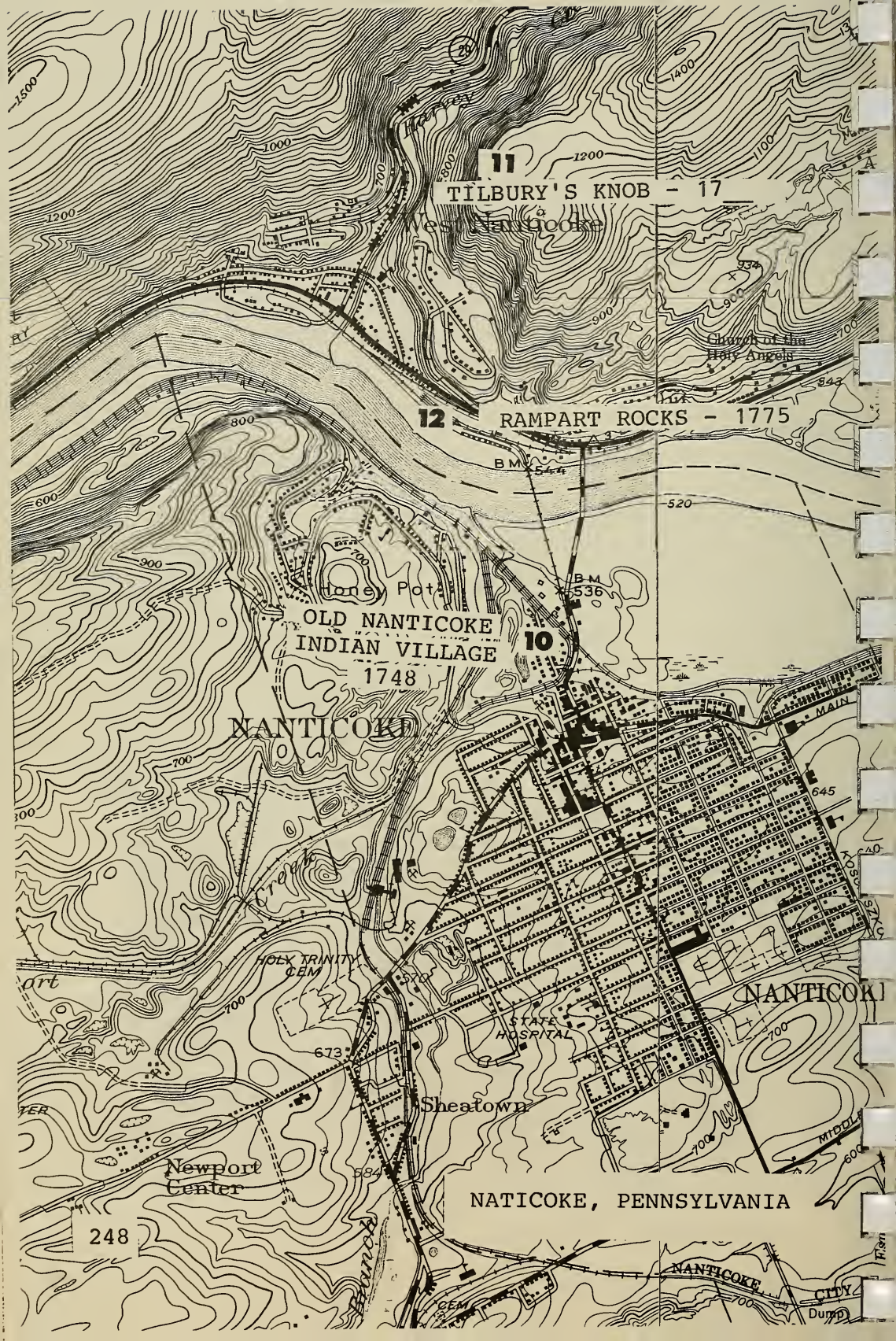
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

Across the Susquehanna River from Nanticoke is Tilbury's Knob. This is the southwest extremity of the Shawanese Mountain, opposite Nanticoke, where the river breaks out of the valley. This bold, precipitous ledge was named from Abraham Tilbury, who dwelt within its shadow. It lies in what was Sunbury Manor, a division of Penn's holdings in Pennsylvania and now is the last land owned by the descendants of William Penn.

Rounding the lower extremity of Tilbury's Knob, to the narrows of the river, is reached the site of Plunkett's battlegrownd at Rampart Rocks. About a mile above Harvey's Creek, on the plantation of Benjamin Harvey, is this strong, natural defense consisting of a precipitous ledge of rocks which extends from the Shawanese Mountain in a southeast direction almost to the bank of the river. This was held by the Yankees in the battle of Sunday morning, December 24, 1775, between the Yankee and Pennamite forces under Colonel William Plunkett. Where the rampart was defective for their complete defense, the Yankees erected breastworks of logs and stones. Six companies of the 24th Regiment of Connecticut, under Colonel Zebulon Butler, routed the Penn amites before they could fire on the Yankees. Monday, December 25th, Plunkett returned to the attack, which lasted all day with frequent cessations. Toward the close of the day, Plunkett withdrew from the field and began his retreat down the west side of the river, plundering the homes of all the Connecticut settlers en route. Straight up the west side of the Susquehanna River from West Nanticoke is Plymouth, Pennsylvania. Early in the eighteenth century the Shawanese tribe of Indians located a village where is now the Borough of Plymouth, at the junction of Coal Street and the "Old Flats Road" at the eastern end of "Shawnee Flats." It consisted of perhaps forty cabins. Map Page 249


11
TILBURY'S KNOB - 17
West Nanticoke
Church of the Holy Angels
12
RAMPART ROCKS - 1775
BM 544
BM 536
Honey Pot
OLD NANTICOKE INDIAN VILLAGE 1748
10
NANTICOKE
MAIN
HOLY TRINITY CEM
STATE HOSPITAL
Sheatown
Newport Center
NANTICOKE, PENNSYLVANIA
248
NANTICOKE CITY
Dump
CEM

M O U T H
PLYMOUTH
Strip Mine
Sts Peter and Paul Cem
Shawnee Cem
Curry Hill
Plymouth Reservoir
Johnson
Greene
OLD SHAWNEE
INDIAN VILLAGE
EARLY 1700's
Sickler Hill
Avondale
Dump
DELAWARE
Mine
Tower
Levee
Hanover
Green
Hanover Cem
SUSQUEHANNA
PENNSYLVANIA
Warrior
ROAD
RIVER
WILKES-BARRE
Mine
Dump
Water
Nanticoke
Loomis Park
PLYMOUTH, PENNSYLVANIA
249

The present Plymouth was settled in 1769, and the Borough was incorporated in 1866. The first Wyoming anthracite coal sent to market was shipped by Abijah Smith in 1807 from his "coal copening" in Plymouth.

On the northeast corner of South Washington and East Northampton Streets stands the Fell Tavern. The building was marked in 1925 by a tablet which carries the following inscription:

> The Fell Tavern was erected on the site in 1787. It was Wilkes-Barre's most famous public house in the days of stage coach and canal travel. Here on February 11, 1808, Judge Jesse Fell successfully burned anthracite coal in an open grate without a forced draft, thus showing the use of that fuel for domestic purposes and laying the foundation of the basic industry of the Wyoming Valley. Map Page 245

Jesse Fell's Memorandum Signed by him, and concerning his discovery of Coal is preserved in the Museum of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. His memorandum stated:

> "February 11th, of Masonry 5808. Made the experiment of burning the common stone-coal of the valley in a grate, in a common fireplace in my house, and find it will answer the purpose of fuel, making a clearer and better fire, at less expense than burning wood in the common way. February 11th, 1808."

The original grate in which Judge Fell's successful experiment was made may be seen along with many other relics of points of interest in the valley, at the building of the Historical Society.

At the junction of West Market Street and Public Square a monument designed by the late Burr C. Miller marked the site of Fort Wilkes-Barre and carried the following inscription:

> 1913, this monument was erected by the Wyoming Valley Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, assisted by the Sons of the Revolution, to mark the spot where Fort Wilkes-Barre stood in 1778, at the time of the Wyoming Massacre. The fort was named in honor of John Wilkes and Isaac Barre, two prominent Englishmen, members of the British Parliament, who strongly opposed the policy of their government toward the American colonies. Map Page 245

The Frances Slocum playground located on the northeast corner of Pennsylvania Avenue at Scott Street was the location of Frances Slocum's home. The ground was presented to the city in 1907 by George Slocum Bennett of Wilkes-Barre, a grand-nephew of Frances Slocum. A memorial tablet on the front wall of the Historical Society, erected by relatives of Judge Joseph Slocum, reads as follows:

> In memory of Frances Slocum (Ma-con-a-quah) "The Lost Sister of Wyoming," captured by Delaware Indians when five years old, November 2, 1778, near the southwestern corner of North Pennsylvania Avenue and East North Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. She was the daughter of Jonathan and Ruth Tripp Slocum, and was discovered living near Peru, Indiana, by her relatives, September 22, 1837, and died March 9, 1847. Map Page 245

Opposite the Luzerne County Court House on the

East side of North River Street you can see the remains of a ridge of rocks on which the Yankees constructed four redoubts during the second Pannamite War (a redoubt is a small inclosed fortification to defend a hilltop).

Map Page 245

The Wilkes-Barre General Hospital grounds were a part of the site of the first settlement made by Connecticut in the Susquehanna Purchase. Here on October 15, 1763, the settlement, then numbering some 118 men, women, and children, was destroyed by a party of renagade Delawares, some twenty of the settlers being killed, others taken captive and the balance driven from the valley. This is the site of Fort Ogden's Block House. Erected on Mill Creek in November, 1769, by Amos Ogden, a Pennamite. It was later taken by the Connecticut settlers. Abandoned in September or October, 1773, because nearly all the settlers who had occupied quarters in the fort had erected by this time houses in Wilkes-Barre town plot or elsewhere.

The Abbott Massacre took place at the southeast corner of River and West Carey Streets in Plains Township where a granite marker, protected by an iron fence, is now under the charge of the Wyoming Valley Chapter, D.A.R., and which bears the following inscription:

> Near this spot John Abbott, aged 36 years, a survivor of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, and Isaac Williams, aged 17 years, were killed and scalped by Indians in July, 1778.

The "Shoemaker Book" states that John Abbott escaped to Monoconock Island during the battle, then taking his wife and family down to Sunbury. On August 4th he rejoined the regiment. His house and barn had been burned,

QUEEN ESTHER'S ROCK - 1778
MONOCANOCK ISLAND - 17__
SITE OF ABBOTT MASSACRE - 1778
WYOMING PLAINS
MINERS MILLS
PENNSYLVANIA
253
WYOMING
Creek
Wyoming Monument
High Sch
33
32
Port Blanchard
J E N K
WYOMING
RIVER
Island
Monocanock
BOUNDARY
Culver Island
Plainsville
VALLEY
Hilldale
Duddy Memorial Sch
LACKAWANNA
ERIE
St Joseph Cem
Cem
Ridgewood
High Sch
Plains
Hudson
Creek
HUDSON
P
L
CONNECTING
DELAWARE
Mill
Miners Mills
Municipal Golf Course
Fox Hill
Airport
Wyoming Valley

cattle slaughtered or driven away, and his fields ravaged. About the end of August he attempted to gather the gleanings and while in the field with Isaac Williams, a youth of 18, they were ambushed by a party of Indians, scalped and left dead on the spot.

In Pittston, Pennsylvania, north of Wilkes-Barre, near the corner of North Main and Parsonage streets stook a monument marking the site of Fort Pittston. It was first called Lackawanna Fort. The erection was begun in the spring of 1772 and consisted on three log blockhouses surrounded by the usual stockade. One of the houses had been built by James Brown of Pittston and was occupied by him and his family in 1776-78. From this circumstance the stronghold later was sometimes called Fort Brown. The site was marked by Dial Rock Chapter of the D.A.R. The inscription reads:

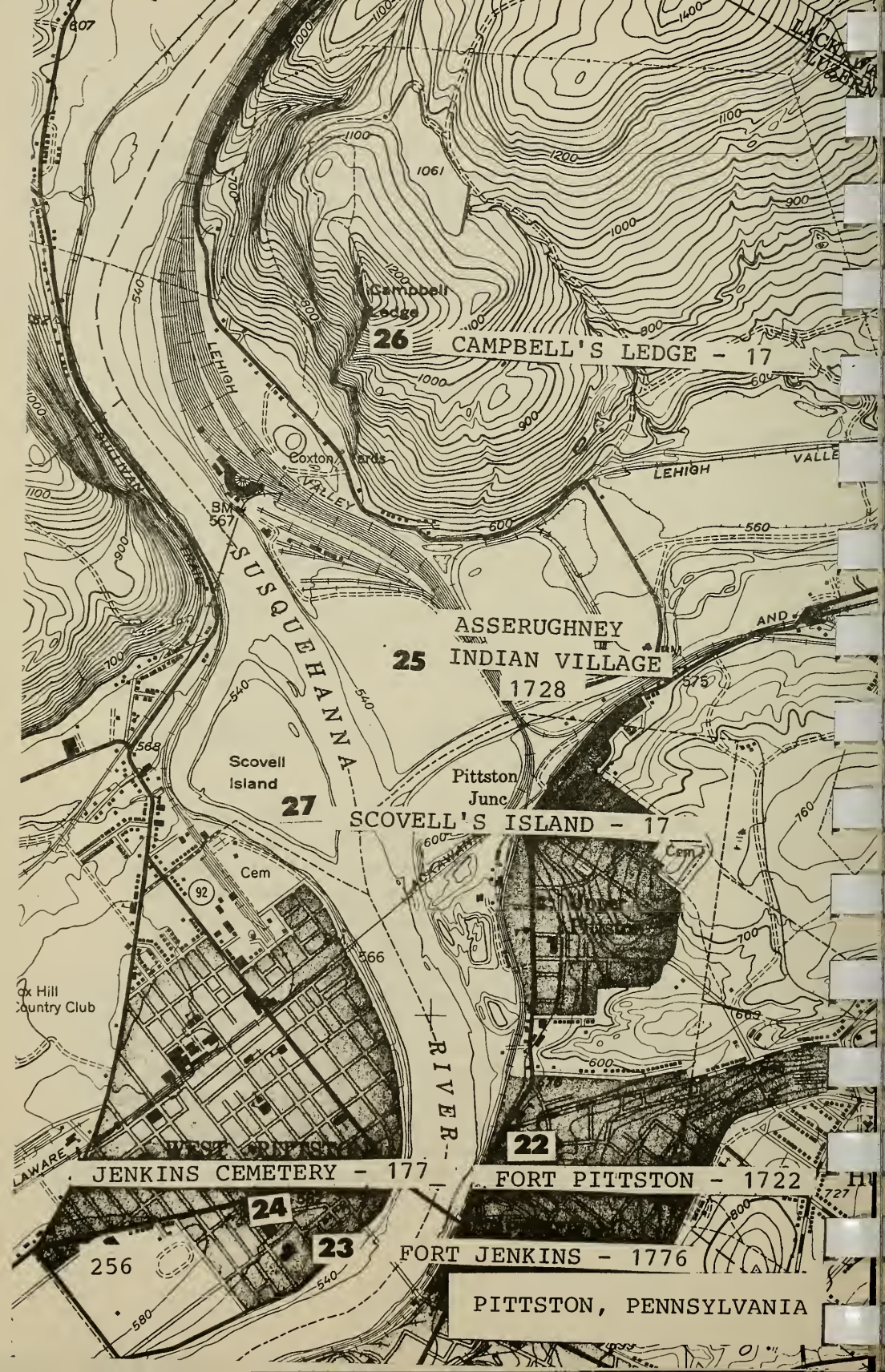
> This stone markes the southern side of Pittston Fort. Here in June and July, 1778, gathered four hundred fugitives for protection against British and Indian foes. Captain Jeremiah Blanchard and Lieutenant Timothy Keyes in command. Erected by Dial Rock Chapter, D.A.R.
> 1778————1906

Across the upper Pittston bridge to West Pittston is the site of Fort Jenkins. In Exeter, within the limits of the present Borough of West Pittston, was the home of Judge John Jenkins. It was stockaded in June, 1777 to conteract the Tory Wintermoot Fort nearby. The inscription marking its site gives its construction as in 1776. Harvey states that this is erroneous. The fort was four-square and covered nearly half an acre. It bears this inscription:

This stone markes the site of Jenkins Fort, one of the Revolutionary defences of Wyoming against the invasion of the British, Indians and Tories. Constructed 1776. Burned 1778. Erected by Dial Rock Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, October 12, 1900. May the sacrifices and sufferings of a patriot ancestry be ever remembered by their descendants.

In the center of West Pittston, at Wyoming Avenue and Linden Streets is the most interesting cemetery in the valley, Jenkins Cemetery, situated on land originally owned by John Jenkins, Sr. This lot was given by him to the public for general use as a burying ground. The gift of the plot was made prior to the time of the Battle of Wyoming, and is one of the few old cemeteries left undisturbed by the march of progress in this section. In this cemetery are buried the two Harding boys, the first victims of the Battle of Wyoming. The plot is now in the care of Dial Rock Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.

Following the beautiful Sullivan Trail north up the river from West Pittston to Harding you pass through the gap by which the Susquehanna enters the Wyoming Valley. Across the river here is the site of the Asserughney Indian Village. An Indian village established early in 1728 by the Minnisinks, a tribe of the Minsi clan of the Delawares, on the east bank of the Susquehanna between Campbell's Ledge and the mouth of the Lackawanna River, in the present Pittston Township. Just back of this is Campbell's Ledge, a high promontory, the southwest extremity of Capouse Mountain, 840 feet above the river. Formerly called Dial Rock from the fact that on its face near the summit



26
CAMPBELL'S LEDGE - 17
Campbell Ledge
LEHIGH
VALLEY
Coxton Yards
BM 567
SUSQUEHANNA
ASSERUGHNEY
25
INDIAN VILLAGE
1728
Scovell Island
27
Pittston Junc
SCOVELL'S ISLAND - 17
Cem
92
RIVER
22
JENKINS CEMETERY - 177
FORT PITTSTON - 1722
24
23
FORT JENKINS - 1776
256
PITTSTON, PENNSYLVANIA

there extends directly north and south a crescent of naked greenish-gray stone which can be seen for a long distance if the weather is favorable. Precisely at noon this crescent receives the full rays of the sun.

The name Campbell's Ledge is understood and generally believed to have been given to the precipice many years ago in honor of the author of "Gertrude of Wyoming." It is mentioned in the historical novel, "Red Shadow," written by a Scrantonian named Barrett. At the foot of Campbell's Ledge and marking the river's entrance into the valley, lies Scovell's Island, named for a family bearing that name.

> On June 30, 1778, in or near the ravine leading to the river, not far from this spot, Benjamin and Stukeley Harding were killed by Indians, being among the first that lost their lives in the days immediately preceding the massacre of July 3rd. Erected by Dial Rock Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, June 30, 1912. This site donated by Mr. P. F. Joyce.

Returning towards West Pittston on the Sullivan Trail, on the right is Suttons Creek where in 1778 was located Hardsall's tan yard. The second Indian attack was made here, shortly after the murder of the Hardings. Here James Hadsall, Jr. was killed and Daniel Carr, James Hadsall, Sr., and a negro named Martin were captured, the two latter being tortured to death that night by the Indians at their encampment near the present village of Orange.

Mount Lookout is a dome shaped section of the Shawanese Mountain back of Wyoming. Back of this mountain the British and Indians encamped

the night of June 30th, and through the ravine to the north they marched into the valley under the guidance of two Tories the evening of July 1st and bivouacked that night on the farm of Philip Wintermoot in Exeter just above the Kingston Township line.

The battle line of the Wyoming Massacre formed along Fourth Street from Susquehanna Avenue. At this point the American forces deployed to the left and formed in battle line, the extreme right resting on the bluff and the line extending across Wyoming Avenue to the swamp beyond. The line of battle nearly followed the present Fourth Street and the battleground was then covered with a thin growth of oak and pine trees. Having formed, the order to advance was given between four and five o'clock in the afternoon, and the thin line moved slowly through the woods, keeping the formation at right angles to Wyoming Avenue for nearly a mile to a point within six hundred feet of the British line, which had been formed a little north of the present Valley Avenue in Exeter, with its left wing protected by the bluff and immediately behind Fort Wintermoot, which was burning, and its right wing extending into the swamp beyond the Lackawanna railroad tracks. This line was made up of some two hundred rangers, a regularly enlisted British force recruited among the American Tories, who were on the right, the principal number being concealed in the swamp and posted in six war bands to a point midway between the battle line and the present Mt. Lookout breaker to out-flank the American left. When the Americans reached the point within six hundred feet of the British they began firing and discharged three volleys as they continued to advance to within a hundred yards of the British. At this point the rangers and Indians, who had been lying on the ground in a fine open wood, arose and began to fire. The engagement then became general

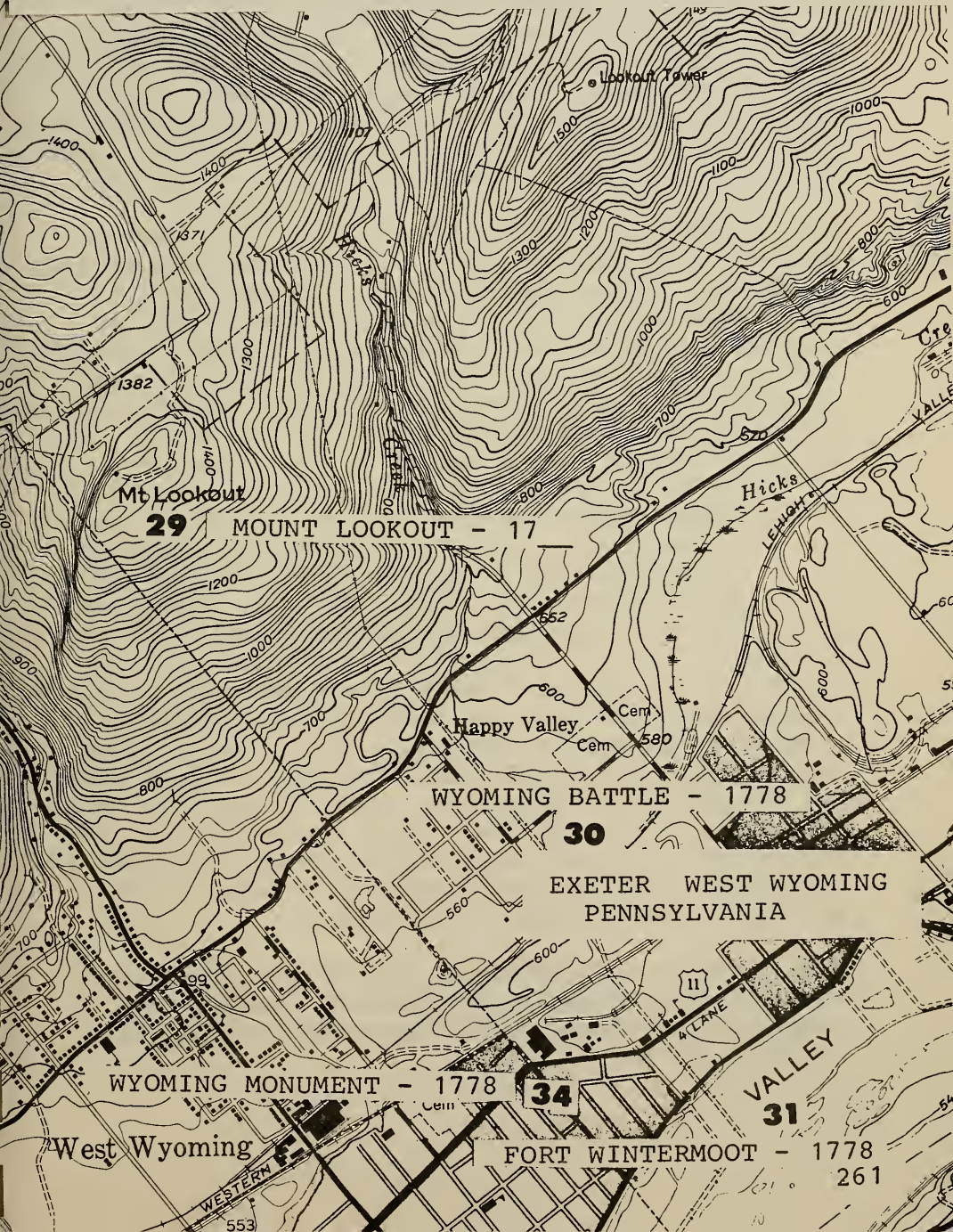
Wyoming Massacre

Wyoming Monument, where victims of the Massacre are buried.

along the entire line. The American right was considerably in advance of its left wing and consequently the line was no longer at right angles to Wyoming Avenue. The Indians now emerged from their hiding place in the swamp and poured over the bank far in the rear of the American left. An effort was made to re-form the line by swinging the left wing back at right angles to the center, but the crumbling line gave way in a pandemonium of flight. The Indians cut off the main Avenue of retreat and forced the Americans to flee in a southeasterly direction towards the river. The battle lasted about thirty minutes and the largest number were captured and slain in a section near the bluff and between the farthest advance and Queen Esther's Rock.

About three-quarters of a mile southwest of Pittston Fort and located on the west side of the river a short distance above the Exeter-Kingston boundary line in the present Exeter Borough at the end of Battle Avenue is Fort Wintermoot. It was the log house of Philip Wintermoot, the Tory, built about 1773 or 1774, and stockaded in the spring of 1776, being then occupied by his family. It stood four or five rods south of the junction of the present Valley Avenue and Battle Street, in that part of Exeter Borough locally known as "Sturmerville." It was burned by the British just before the battle as a ruse to trick the colonists. The plot later becam e the property of Colonel John Jenkins, and his home site. A marker bears this inscription:

> Site of Fort Wintermoot, taken July 1, 1778, by the British forces and occupied by them until burned July 3, just before the Battle of Wyoming. It was later the home site of Lt. Colonel John Jenkins, two of those


Lookout Tower
Mt Lookout
29
MOUNT LOOKOUT - 17__
Hicks
Creek
Hicks
LEHIGH
VALLE
Happy Valley
Cem
Cem
WYOMING BATTLE - 1778
30
EXETER WEST WYOMING
PENNSYLVANIA
4 LANE
VALLEY
31
WYOMING MONUMENT - 1778
34
West Wyoming
WESTERN
FORT WINTERMOOT - 1778
261

descendants have placed here this tablet, July 3, 1928.

From the site of Fort Wintermoot to the southwest may be seen Monocanock Island. A long narrow island in the Susquehanna River, opposite the lower end of the Borough of Wyoming, in Kingston Township, and a short distance west of the village of Plains. The name is a corrupted form of the Indian "Manaughaning."

Fort Wyoming, Pennsylvania, south on Wyoming Avenue to Eighth Street, thence east across the bridge to Wilkes-Barre, thence north away is Queen Esther's Rock. In 1895 Wyoming Valley Chapter, D.A.R., purchased Queen Esther's Rock and in order to preserve it from further demolishment by relic hunters, erected a steel fence about it and a bronze tablet bearing this inscription: Map Page 253

> Upon this rock the Indian, Queen Esther, slaughtered the brave patriots taken in the battle of July 3, 1778. Preserved by the Wyoming Valley Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, 1895.

On May 22, 1832, the long lost hecatomb of those killed at Wyoming was discovered. Immediately steps to provide a monument were taken. The cornerstone was laid July 3, 1833, and December 3, the bones of the slain were removed to their present resting place. Work of completing the shaft then lagged until 1841, when the women of the community secured funds to proceed, the capstone being laid in October.

The face of the monument to the northwest contains the following appropriate inscription by Edward G. Mallery, great-grandson of Colonel Zebulon Butler:

Near this spot was fought on the afternoon of Friday, the third day of July, 1778, the Battle of Wyoming, in which a small band of patriotic Americans, chiefly the undisciplined, the youthful and the aged, spared by inefficiency from the distant ranks of the Republic, led by Colonel Zebulon Butler and Colonel Nathan Denison, with a courage that deserved success, boldly met and bravely fought a combined British, Tory and Indian force of thrice their number. Numerical superiority alone gave success to the invader, and widespread havoc, desolation and ruin marked his savage and bloody footsteps through the valley.

This monument, commerative of these events, and of the actors in them, has been erected over the bones of the slain by their descendants and others, who gratefully appreciated the services and sacrifices of their patriot ancestors. Map Page 261

The last battle of the Pannamite War took place near the sharp bend in Wyoming Avenue below the Wyoming Monument. It was here at the farmhouse of Richard Brockway, which Colonel Franklin fortified and occupied with the Yankee forces, that the Pennamites were finally beaten in the last battle of the Yankee-Pennamite Wars. In the Brockway house upon the bloody rifle of his friend, William Jackson, who had fallen, Franklin took his famous oath during the battle, October 18, 1784. Map Page 266

The Yankee-Pennamite Wars, fought intermittently from September, 1769, to November 30, 1784, except for the period of the Revolution, were a

contest between the Connecticut Yankees and the Penn Proprietary interests for the possession of the rich Wyoming region. The measures taken in their settlement have been cited at The Hague Tribunal. Captain John Franklin was the indomitable leader of the Connecticut settlers. After the battle mentioned above, he swore on the rifle of a wounded friend that nothing but death should arrest his efforts to expel the Pennamites.

At River Road and the Forty Fort cemetery on Wyoming Avenue was the Forty Fort Meeting House.

Until 1806 the settlers of the West Side had no fixed place of worship. Following a great revival held in the summer of that year by Bishop Asbury of the Methodist Church in a grove, now a part of the adjoining cemetery, the Presbyterians united with their Methodist brethern in raising funds for building purposes. The Old Meeting HOuse, still in a state of spendid preservation, is the result. Stone and building materials were hauled by voluntary labor during the ensuing winter and the building itself was completed during the summer of 1807. The present pews and high pulpit were installed the following winter and in June, 1808, formal dedication of the completed structure followed.

Its two congreations worshipped in peace until the growth of each compelled it to seek larger quarters, differing in this respect from the disputes and distrubances which marked an attempt of three congregations to share Old Ship Zion on the Square at Wilkes-Barre (begun 1800, finished 1812).

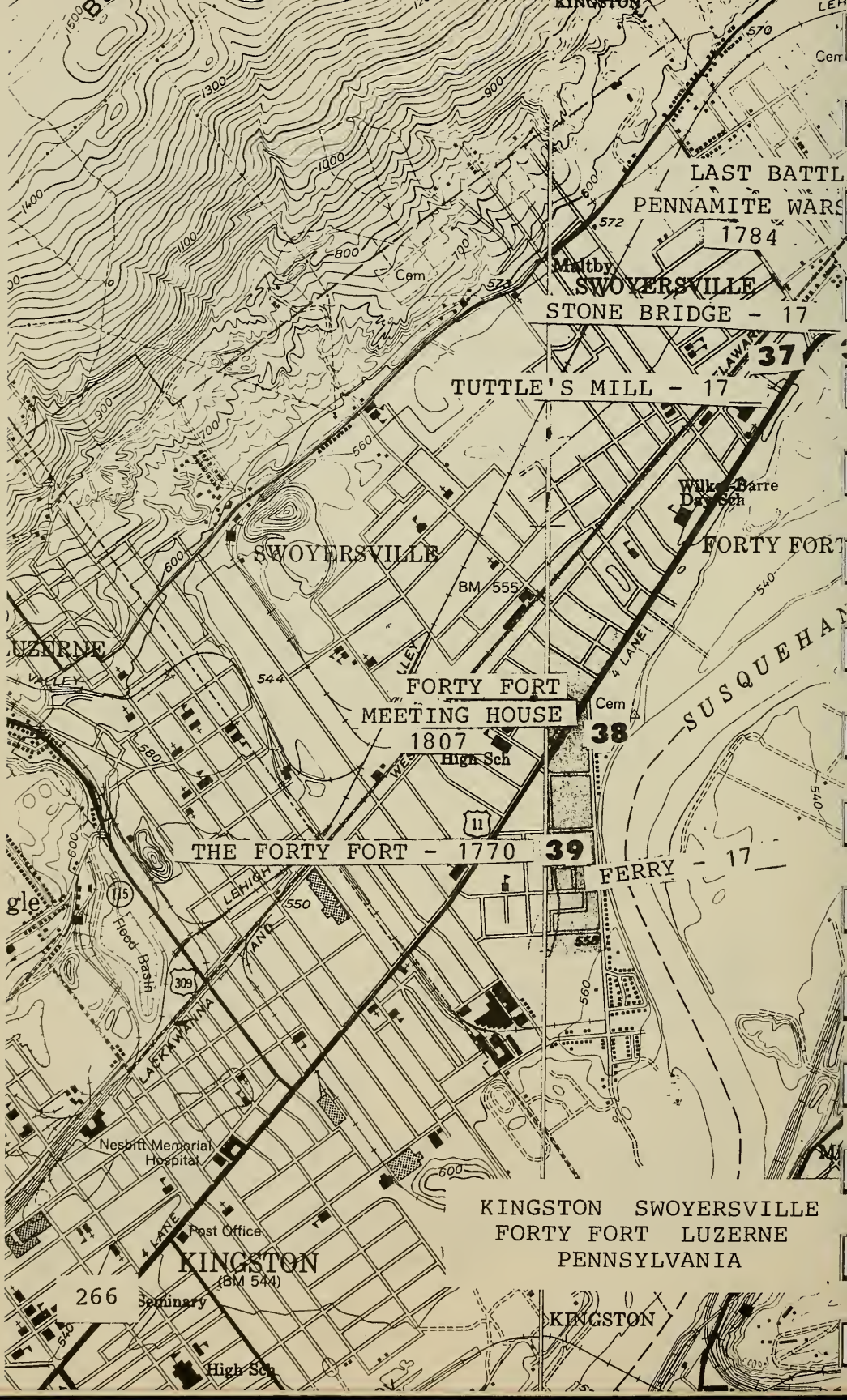
Forty Fort, Pennsylvania, thus named because it stood in and was erected by the proprietors of the township originally known as the "Forty Township," a name given because it was allotted to the first forty settlers. It stood in the

upper end of the present Kingston Township at the bend of the river, about two and one-third miles in a bee-line north of Fort Wyoming, which is on the river bank at Wilkes-Barre. It was a rudely built stockade fort. It was rebuilt in 1777, adding much to its strength and dimensions, and it probably enclosed nearly two acres of ground. This was the mobilization point of the settlers previous to the battle and the assembly place of the survivors. It was surrendered on July 4, 1778, the terms of capitulation also including all other frontier forts of the valley. The tablet, affixed to a huge boulder of conglomerate, bears this inscription:

> Forty Fort, built on this site 1770, named from the first forty pioneers. Enlarged 1777, protected the inhabitants when the British and Indians invaded the settlement June, 1778. From it, July 3, 1778, the militia under Colonel Zebulon Butler marched to meet the enemy. Defeat and the Massacre of Wyoming followed. It capitulated under Colonel Nathan Denison, July 4, 1778. Erected by the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, October 19, 1900.

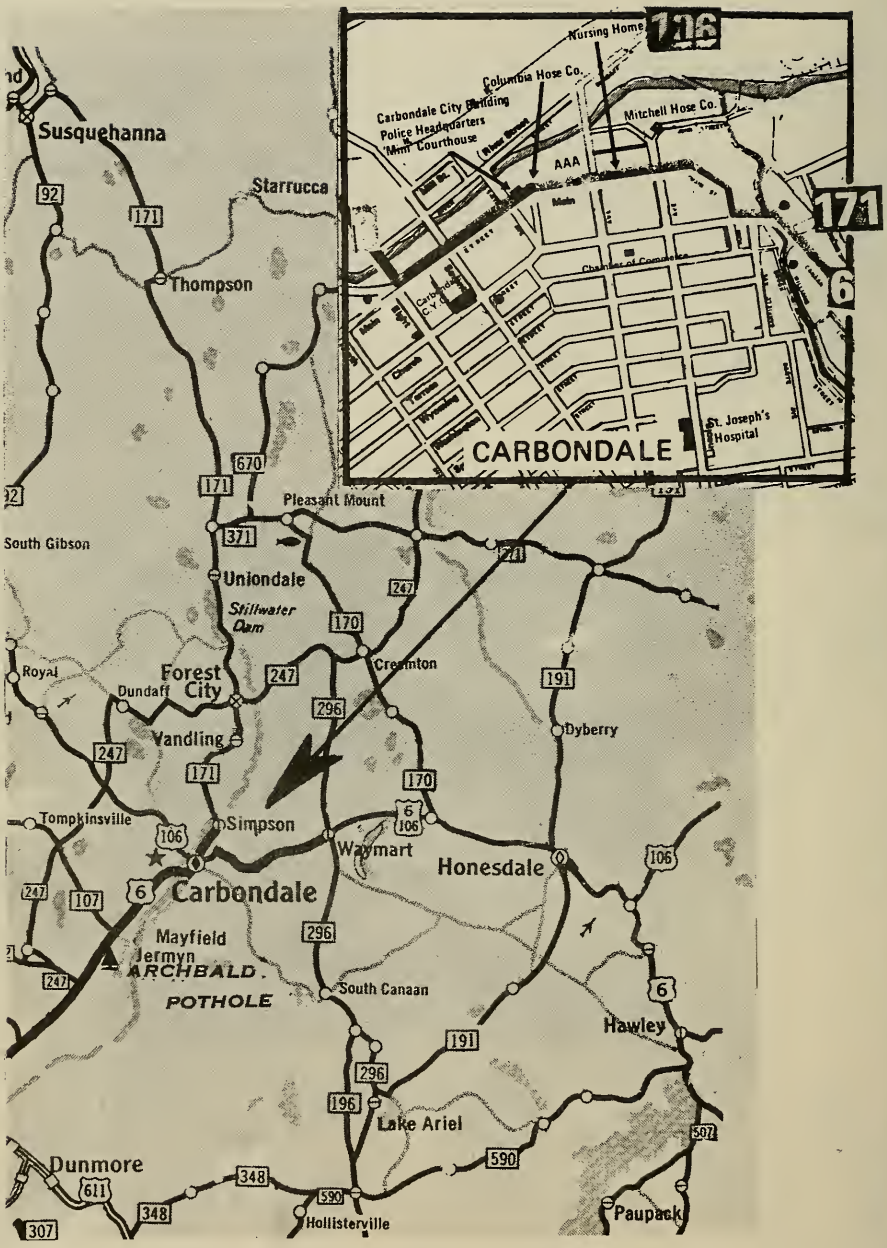
Near the site of the fort was Rose's Ferry, crossing the river here to the lowlands below the present town of Plains, near the older settlement at Mill Creek.

From Forty Fort south on Wyoming Avenue is Kingston, Pennsylvania. Originally called Kingston and named for Kingston, Rhode Island. It was the certified township of Kingston, the prize selected by the first forty adventurers who entered the valley February 8, 1769, and who were the pioneers of Wyoming Valley and


LAST BATTL
PENNAMITE WARS
1784
SWOYERSVILLE
STONE BRIDGE - 17
37
TUTTLE'S MILL - 17
SWOYERSVILLE
FORTY FORT
BM 555
FORTY FORT
MEETING HOUSE
1807
38
SUSQUEHA
THE FORTY FORT - 1770
39
FERRY - 17
Hood Basin
Nesbitt Memorial Hospital
Post Office
KINGSTON
(BM 544)
KINGSTON SWOYERSVILLE
FORTY FORT LUZERNE
PENNSYLVANIA
266
KINGSTON

Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Borough was incorporated in 1857.

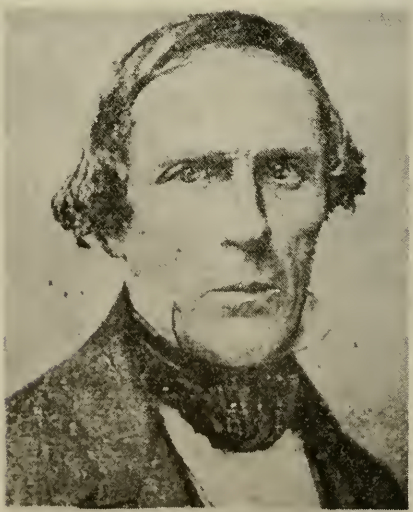
Access to Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, from Kingston is by the Market Street bridge over the Susquehanna River. In Wilkes-Barre, the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society museum contains relics of every period of the History of Wyoming Valley and one of the largest collections of Indian remains in this country.



Carbondale, Pennsylvania
1851-1951

Pike Street
Eighth Avenue
River St.
7th Ave.
Main St.
Library
6th Ave.
Memorial Park
City Hall
Carbondale, Pennsylvania
1976
Main St.
Salem Ave.
Nursing Home.

Carbondale City Hall, 1900.

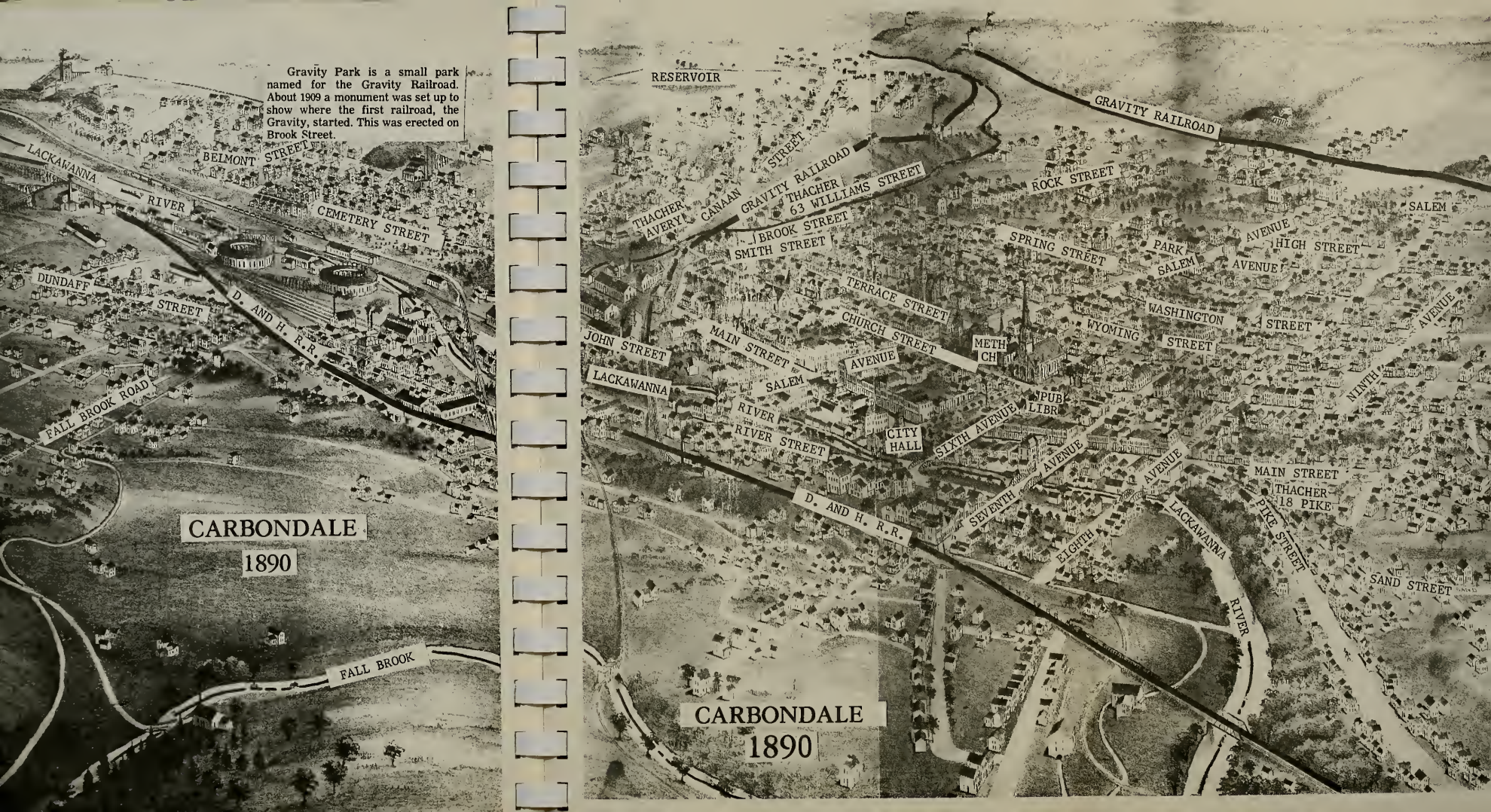


James Archbald
Carbondale's First Mayor

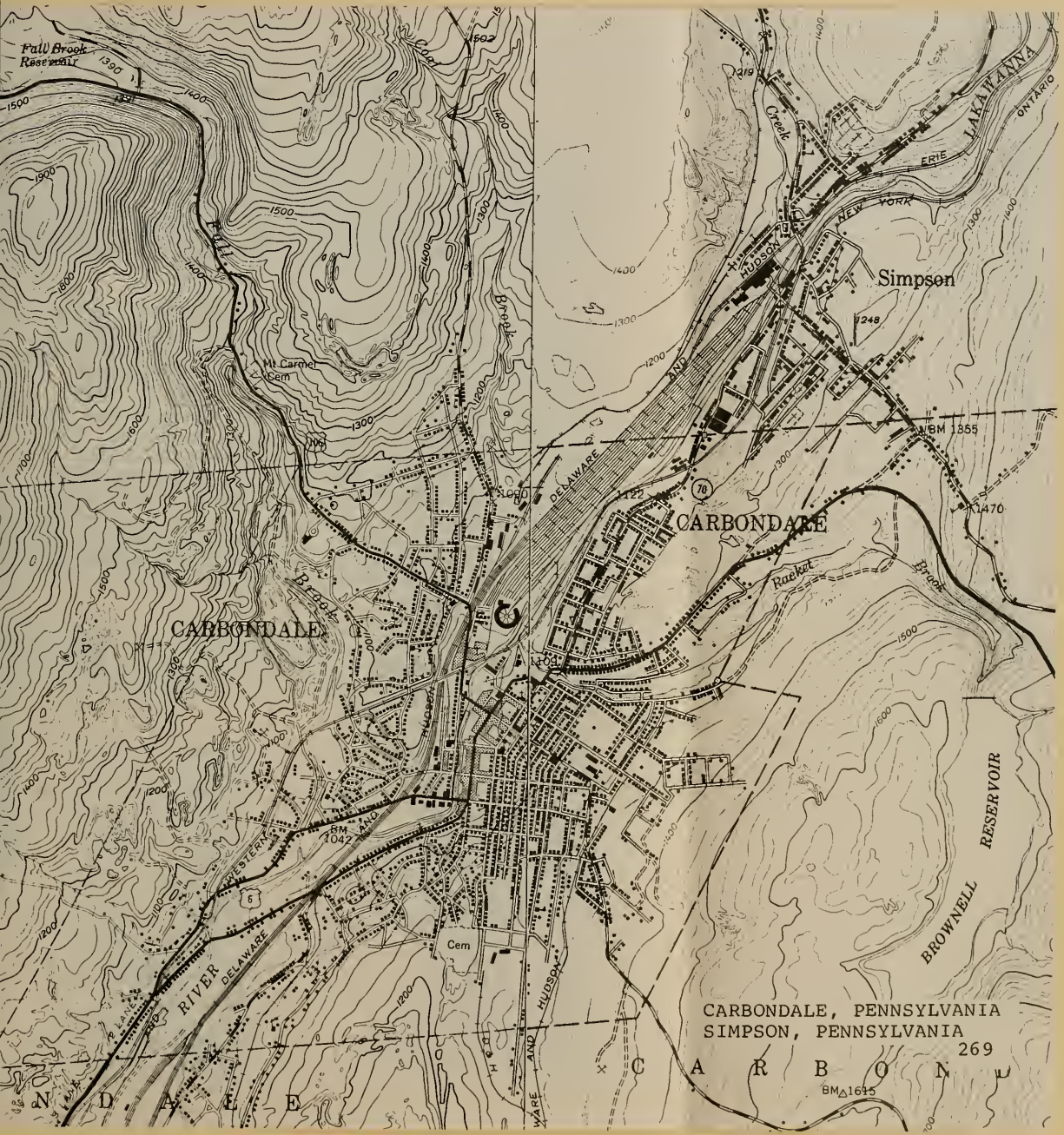
.1851-1855

.1851-1855

Church St.
Main St.
River Street
City Hall
Library
Methodist Church
Salem
Avenue
Church St.
Nursing home
Lackawanna River
Lincoln Ave.
Main St.
John St.
Carbondale Pennsylvania
1940
YMCA
Old Gravity Railroad shops


Gravity Park is a small park named for the Gravity Railroad. About 1909 a monument was set up to show where the first railroad, the Gravity, started. This was erected on Brook Street.
LACKAWANNA RIVER
BELMONT STREET
CEMETERY STREET
DUNDAFF STREET
D. AND H. R.R.
FALL BROOK ROAD
FALL BROOK
CARBONDALE
1890
RESERVOIR
GRAVITY RAILROAD
THACHER AVERY CANAAN STREET
GRAVITY RAILROAD
THACHER
63 WILLIAMS STREET
BROOK STREET
SMITH STREET
ROCK STREET
SPRING STREET
PARK AVENUE
SALEM AVENUE
HIGH STREET
SALEM
TERRACE STREET
CHURCH STREET
METH CH
WASHINGTON AVENUE
WYOMING STREET
STREET
JOHN STREET
MAIN STREET
AVENUE
LACKAWANNA
SALEM
RIVER
RIVER STREET
CITY HALL
PUBL LIBR
SIXTH AVENUE
SEVENTH AVENUE
EIGHTH AVENUE
NINTH AVENUE
MAIN STREET
THACHER
18 PIKE
PIKE STREET
SAND STREET
D. AND H. R.R.
LACKAWANNA RIVER
CARBONDALE
1890

Corner of North Main and Salem Avenue after a heavy rain during the summer of 1922



CARBONDALE, PENNSYLVANIA
SIMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA

CARBONDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

1851 - 1951

In 1951 thirty-two eighth graders of the Roosevelt School, with the help and guidance of their principal James J. Crane, and their superintendant of schools Miss Mary B. McAndrew, compiled a story of Carbondale for the City's one hundreth anniversary on March 15, 1951.

This little booklet contains numerous little items of information concerning Carbondale's early days which are significant to the Thacher genealogy as it was here that James Peter Thacher was born in 1849, and died in 1920. His daughters and some of his descendants lived here many years. His youngest daughter, the late Hazel Thacher Avery, 1891.2-1973, her husband Raymond Avery, and the late Kathryn Thacher, operated a confectionary store at 93 North Church Street at the foot of Caanan Street for over forty years. It's closed now. Raymond Avery retired from the Delaware and Hudson Railroad Company in 1969 and later removed to Oneonta, New York.

We acknowledge here the names of those thirty-two eighth graders of Roosevelt School in 1951 who did such a good job in compiling the information:

Andreoni, Jennie
Barnicott, Janet
Birkett, Albert
Casper, Agnes
Chapman, Norma
Chellino, Mary Ann
Davey, Elizabeth
Fry, Sandra
Gonzalez, Manuel
Helms, Beverly
James, Barbara
Kelly, Ellen
Lewis, Gretchen
Martin, Mary
Mermelstein, Fern
Mikloiche, Marion
Mitchell, Fred
Modad, June
Mosher, Rose Ann
Neimeyer, Marlyn
Ogazaly, Joan
Olver, Margie
Richards, Sally
Shaw, Helene
Siebold, Isabelle
Sweet, Bonnie
Timmons, Audry
Walls, Barbara
Wayman, Gail
Wayman, Maureen
Williamson, Sally
Willis, Margaret E.

CARBONDALE'S FIRST HUNDRED YEARS

Carbondale a Pioneer city in northeastern Pennsylvania celebrated its first hundred years of existence as a city of March 15, 1951. Located in northeastern Lackawanna County, it is situated in a narrow valley between the Salem Mountains on the east and the Moosic Mountains on the west. The Blue Ridge of which there are part, is a branch of the great Appalachian system. To establish more clearly its position, the city has an altitude of 1016 feet, a longitude of 76½, and a latitude of 41½. It covers an area of about ten square miles.

The name Lackawanna is an Indian name which means "the place where two streams meet." The east branch of the Lackawanna River rises in Dunn's Lake and is fed by water from Summit Lake and Independent Lake. The west branch has its beginning in Lou Lake, is fed by Lewis Lake, and just below Uniondale joins the east branch at Stillwater Dam. As it flows through Simpson it is fed by Wilson Creek; then in Carbondale, Racketbrook Creek and Fallbrook Creek unite with several smaller creeks to augment the waters of the river. Although usually very low, in times of heavy rains or melting snows, disastrous floods ofter occur. The Lackawanna winds its way down the narrow valley until it meets the Susquehanna at upper Pittston.

In 1802 Captain George Rix who lived near Waymart, persuaded David Ailsworth, a Rhode Island farmer, to settle at "Ragged Island" which later was known as Barrendale and still later was called Carbondale.

In 1810 Christopher Wilbur, a wheelwright, noticed coal. Just two years earlier, 1808, Judge Fell of Wilkes-Barre had succeeded in burning coal. He brought the Wurts brothers,

William and Maurice, here from Philadelphia to prospect for coal. Much thought was given to a means of transportation. One of the earliest settlers, David Noble, who knew much about the land, agreed to work with the Wurts brothers in their development of the coal resources. At that time the land was owned by Lord William Russell of England. His agent, the famous discoverer of oxygen, J. R. Priestley, sold William Wurts several thousand acres of land at two dollars an acre.

Authorities differ regarding the manner in which Carbondale received its name. One version, long held by its citizens, was that Washington Irving, the famous author, wished to send a package to a friend located here, had addressed it Carbondale; the other story is that a box of tools was consigned to the young settlement labeled Carbondale. Both agree that the significance of the name was the same; Carbon meaning the coal found here, and dale meaning valley.

Pioneers from Carbondale have given its name to cities founded by them:

Carbondale, Illinois,
Carbondale, Colorado,
Carbondale, Iowa,
Carbondale, Kansas,
Carbondale, Michigan,
Carbondale, Ohio,

Hon. T. V. Powderly, former Commissioner of Immigration, is authority for the statement that Carbondale was first called Barrendale, a name probably inspired by the bleak, barren vista disclosed to the eyes of the first settlers. His father told him the story which was later confirmed by J. M. Poore.

The first coal was carried by wagon over the

mountains to Honesdale where it was placed on rafts on the Lackawaxen River and floated down the Delaware River to Philadelphia. Here the market was poor due to competition with coal from the Reading area. New York City offered better opportunities for sales but there was then no way by which the coal could reach that city. The idea of connecting the Delaware and Hudson Rivers gained many followers and a survey was made by Benjamin Wright. Begun in 1826 and completed in 1828, the canal was one hundred eight miles long from the tidewater at the Hudson River to Honesdale, nine hundred eighty feet above sea level. Boats carried one thousand, one hundred twenty-five tons and drew five and one-half feet of water. A series of one hundred six locks and two guard locks were used. A railroad -- the Gravity -- connected the mines at Carbondale with the canalat Honesdale. Five inclined planes and stationary engines carried the coal over the two thousand foot mountains up and down the incline for six miles: then on a livel stretch for ten miles to Honesdale. On this level the first steam locomotive used in America made its trial trip. The Stourbridge Lion, built in England for the Delaware Hudson Canal Company, made its historic run in 1829 on the Gravity tracks parallel with the canal and crossing Lackawaxen Creek on a trestle thirty feet high on a curve nearly one-fourth of a mile long. The track then continued in almost a straight line into the forest. Most people felt that the heavy engine would break the flimsy track built with rails of hemlock stringers six by twelve inches set on edge, and of twenty and thirty foot lengths, held together by cross ties at invervals of ten and fifteen feet supported on posts set in broken stones or on stone piers. The engine was too heavy for this track and the company was obliged to haul the empty cars from Honesdale to Waymart with horses. The engine was stored along the track and as winter approached

was housed with a rough covering of boards to protect it from the weather. In 1849 it was removed to Carbondale where the boiler was put into use in the company's shop, as were many of the other parts. For over twenty years the boiler was used until replaced by one of greater power. Finally partially reconstructed the Stourbridge Lion found its way to the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, D.C., where it now stands.

It is significant to note that the first locomotive operated in the western hemisphere, secured its power from Lackawanna anthracite, and was brought here solely to assist in the transportation of anthracite from the mines to the point of consumption. It pointed the way to the introduction of other and faster engines which were to play a leading part in the development of the coal industry.

Located on U.S. Route 6, Carbondale is on the direct route to central United States, while a vast network of state highways connect the city with all parts of the country. On these many roads huge trucks carry loads of ten to twenty tons to nearby states -- even as far as Vermont and New Hampshire. Buses now care for the travel needs of much of the population, assisted by two railroads and the Carbondale-Clifford Airport.

In 1823 coal was discovered on West Seventh Avenue just below the Delaware and Hudson Railroad station. The prospectors could see the coal shining through the dirt on the hillside.

The first miners were from Ireland, Wales, England, and Scotland. The English and Welsh were experienced in mining; having been trained in the mines at home.

When mining first began the men didn't dig a

shaft and climb down into the mine; all they had to do was dig a hole and walk into it. Their only tools were pick and shovels and rough iron drills. With these the coal was dug out, put on a wheel-barrow, and wheeled to where a horse and wagon was waiting to carry it away over the hills to Honesdale. The forests which covered the mountain sides made the shipping of coal very difficult. First the trees had to be cleared away to open a road. Mud, rain, and snow often made these soft roads impassable. Tree trunks were used to fill the worst holes. When the coal reached Honesdale it was placed on flat boats and floated down the Lackawaxen River to Philadelphia. The difficulty met in obtaining a market here led to the plan of selling in New York City. In 1826 the building of canals was commenced and completed in 1828. The Delaware and the Hudson Rivers were now joined. In 1829 the construction of the Gravity Railroad, used until 1898, connected Honesdale and Carbondale. Anthracite coal mining has long been the basic industry, not only in Carbondale, -- but also in Lackawanna County.

The greatest achievement in modern mining has been the progress made in the elimination of many accidents and the attendant injuries. Lost time, accidents, and fatalities have been greatly reduced in the past years. Among the many improvements can be listed more production per man by the introduction of modern machinery, the use of electric locomotives to replace mules, better ventilation supplying more oxygen for men and rendering harmless poison and explosive gases, the uses of electric pumps, electric loaders, and electric coal cutters producing more and better coal and decreasing the use of explosives. The more explosives used the more oxygen is used and the air is contaminated by smoke and gases. Further improvements include better lighting by electricity, better cap lamps for men, improved flame

safety gas testing lamps, all of which must be approved by the Bureau of Mines. The introduction of and use of permissible explosives -- explosives that will not ignite gas -- the appointment of state mine inspectors to see that the mining laws of the state are enforced for the protection and the safety of the men have done much to improve conditions. The creation of the Federal Bureau of Mines and federal inspectors tend to makemining better and safer.

These are but a few of the advances made in modern mining. Surveyors and civil engineers cost the companies millions of dollars per year but they are a necessity in modern mining. It is a far cry from the old method of operating a mine by compass and guessing. Today all places are driven exactly as prescribed by the engineers. Accurate maps of a mine are made every six months. Men are not locked or trapped in a mine by taking out the wrong pillars (the coal left to support the roof during the first mining). In modern mining pillars are what we call columnized, which of course requires efficient engineering. Here is a brief explanation: in most mines there are several veins of coal which they mine (a vein is a stratum of coal) that is; we have a stratum of rock, then a stratum of strata of coal which are of varying thickness and when they are mined the pillars of coal directly over one another are left regardless of how deep the mine or the number of veins of coal mined. This is what is known as columnizing.

It would take hours to explain all the methods in modern mining, production, transportation, pumping, maintenance, engineering, timbering, and ventilating, which have all been vastly improved, and progress is still being made.

The government of Carbondale is divided into three periods. The first period was from 1823

to 1851. We did not have a mayor or councilmen at that time. The first officer was the constable. As less than 5,000 people were then living here it was very easy to come together in a "town meeting" whenever they wanted to discuss anything. They usually had their meetings in a large store or in the park.

The second period was from 1851 to about 1904. We do not know the exact date when the second period ended. In 1851 Carbondale became a city. At that time this part of northeastern Pennsylvania was part of Luzerne County. The great distance to Wilkes-Barre to be traveled by stagecoach convinced the people that we needed a court nearer at hand. It was decided to skip the customary borough form of government and apply for a city charter. This was granted March 15, 1851. The first annual election of officers for the city was held March 21, with four hundred twenty-eight votes polled. The results of this election were:

Mayor -- James Archbald.
Select Council -- Joseph Benjamin, Thomas Gillespie, Peter Campbell, Michael Flynn.

Common Council -- Thomas Sweet, Daniel Scurry, William Ball, Patrick Moffitt, Sr., James Clarkson, Edward Jones, William W. Bronson, Alexander Bryden, Richard Howarth, Terrence Powderly, Patrick Connor, Daniel Thacher.

Constables: James White, Isaac Wolf.

Alderman: Fourth Ward: Patrick Farrell.

Prosecuting Attorney: George Perkins.

Poor Masters: John Campbell, John Lee.

Auditors: William H. Richmond, James Scott, Thomas Voyle.

Clerk of the Mayor's Court -- William Brennan.

Assessor: Phillips Wilson.

Treasurer: Lewis Pughe.

As can be seen from the foregoing the government of the city was to be conducted by a mayor and two branches of council: the Select and the Common. The town was divided into four wards. Later as the city limits spread, this number was increased to six wards. Each ward would have two representatives. From the eight representatives would be chosen the men to serve as officers. Our first city building was built during this term. Our police force was also inaugurated.

The third period extended from 1904 to the present. Now we have what is called the Commission Form of government. Under this system we have a mayor, and four councilmen. Each member has charge of a special department. Present officers are:

Mayor -- William L. Monahan.

Department of Public Affairs

Department of Parks and Buildings: John Linnen.

Department of Finance: William Walsh.

Department of Streets: Thomas Maylan.

Department of Public Safety: Santo Pascoe.

When Carbondale was incorporated as a city March

15, 1851, there was no city building in which to hold the ceremonies of the period. The first annual election of officers was held on Friday, March 21, 1851. Despite the bad weather four hundred twenty-eight votes were polled. This number may seem small today but we must remember at that time only the men taxpayers could vote. James Archbald was elected our first mayor. He was sworn into office March 26, 1851 in the Methodist Episcopal Church. As Carbondale was then part of Luzerne County, the oath was administered by Hon. William Jessup, President Judge of Carbondale Judicial district. The first session of the Mayor's court was held in the Methodist Episcopal Church May 13, 1851, Judge Jessup presiding.

The first court house which we now know as the Municipal Building was a small wooden building erected at the corner of Main Street and Sixth Avenue in 1852. It cost three thousand dollars, but was burned February 24, 1859, when a simple fellow known about town as U-Know-U-Know set fire to his mattress. A brick building was put up at once. It had a double stairway for the entrance which proved most exciting to the children who loved to run up one side and down the other. It also had an entrance on the ground floor. Later it was found necessary to make changes and an addition was put on which extended and widened the front. This change was made about 1890.

Up to that time there had been a wooden fence, green in color. The land to the south between the Lackawanna River and Main Street had been used as a court by the Riverside Tennis Club.

The Carbondale Public Library first occupied a room in the D. & H. office building but was later moved to the room it now occupies in the Carbondale Municipal Building.

The Mayor's office and Council Chambers are on the second floor as are offices for various departments associated with the city government. On the first floor are the City Treasurer's Office, the Police Department, the Red Cross Office, the A.A.A. Motor Club Office, the Public Library, the Jail, and rooms for the family of the janitor of the building.

Memorial Park is located on Main Street directly opposite the City Building. According to the custom of the early settlements in eastern United States a plot of land in the center of the town was set aside as a meeting place. Here the towns-people met and discussed all matters of importance. Early Carbondale had its town meetings regularly. As the town grew in size this method of settling the manner of government became of little value, but the Park remains to this day a pleasant spot with its trees, flowers, and benches where people may enjoy the pleasant summer days.

The need for playgrounds became apparent quite some years ago. Community Service was organized through the efforts of people with the welfare of children at heart. Pioneering in the movement were Fred Mills, deceased, Joseph A. Linnen, present County Treasurer, Miss Mary B. McAndrew, Superintendent of Schools, and many others, several of the number being teachers of the city. Through their efforts and the financial support given by the people of the city, six playgournds were opened in 1924, with Mr. St. Alban Kyte as director. Instructors and the playgrounds on which they worked were:

Salem Avenue -- Marguerite McAndrew (Mrs. Charles DeLaney).

Birkett Street -- Ruth McDonald (Mrs. Neary).

Green Street -- Mae Sullivan (Mrs. Gerald Kelly).

Sandy's Field -- Mary Reilly.

Powderly Street -- Mrs. Elizabeth Wasman -- Harry Bender.

Brooklyn Street -- Hannah Kelly (Mrs. Dr. Walter Jordan).

A seventh playground, Cottage Street, with Miss Mary Reilly in charge was opened in 1925. For several years these seven grounds were financed and directed by the people of their respective neighborhoods. Who of the older generation does not remember the beautiful pageant "The Wishing Well?" Given at the close of the season on the spacious grounds of the Hendrick estate, it was a source of joy and pride to the hundreds of children who took part in it.

Mr. Bender later became director and served faithfully for many years. Later the control and upkeep of the playgrounds was undertaken by the city authorities. Interest dwindled and for a time Carbondale had no playgrounds. More recently, however, the people in various sections of the city have again become active until at present we have ten located as follows:

Birkett, Upper Belmont, East Side Park, West Side Farview, Dundaff, Green, Loftus, South Side, White Bridge, Wilson.

Playgrounds are not only places where children go to be amused but they are also places where children learn many other things. The spirit of fair play, their habits while with others, many useful activities, respect for the rights and properties of others are only a few of the things learned on a well conducted playground. Where the leaders are enthusiastoc and the instructors well trained, a playground can do much for a community. On the other hand a playground without proper supervision is worse

than no playground at all.

The Carbondale Public Library was organized in 1872 by a group of young men called the "Dickens Society." They had some money left over from a series of lectures and offered to donate it towards starting a public library in Carbondale. By active solicitation among the citizens the sum of over one thousand four hundred dollars was raised within a week, a few of the subscriptions being one hundred dollars.

The Young Men's Library Association was incorporated in 1875 under the laws of the state. These young men later became prominent citizens of Carbondale -- one was mayor, two were bank presidents, one an official of the D&H, two were ministers, and one superintendent of schools.

With the money they had secured a public library was opened in the D. & H. Building on North Main Street. The library was supported by life, sustaining, and active members. The first purchase of books amounted to ninety-four dollars. These books were well selected and some of them are in the library still and have made a good foundation.

In 1895, an arrangement was made with the City Council to move the Library to the City Building -- Council agreeing to appropriate each year a certain sum for its maintenance. Mr. R. Manville was the first president. Mr. C. E. Spencer became president in 1889. After his death and the passing of other directors, there was less interest shown in the library for several years, and little progress was made. In 1933, the Library Association was reorganized with Mr. N. H. Hiller, as president. Since then with an active and efficient Board of Directors, there has been marked progress. At this time

the Library was thoroughly renovated, books in worn-out condition and of no value were eliminated leaving a total of two thousand one hundred. Through the efforts of the Board of Directors a room was added to the Library but it is still crowded with little room for expansion.

At the end of the first year of this new administration the circulation was about six thousand books and borrowers numbered nearly two thousand, being active borrowers. To augment the City appropriation the directors decided to include in the association supporting members. Each year two hundred appeals have been sent out for memberships but the response has not been encouraging. Including the directors there are now thirty members. Many libraries have supporting members called "Friends of the Library." The Kiwanis Club has already shown its friendly spirit and in time all Kiwanians will be included in "Friends of the Libraries."

Carbondale's first hose company was a very primitive affair. Organized in 1843, the Rescue Hook and Ladder Company was of great service during the early days of settlement. For a time, fires were kept well under control. The hose was kept on a two-wheeled cart which was pulled by hand. As there was no fire house the cart was parked any place along Main Street. Water was obtained from the river or from wells closer to the fire. All water was pumped by hand.

The Great Fire of 1850 did much damage and made the people realize their great danger. The fire broke out in the Carbondale House operated at that time by G. W. Thomas. Extending from Memorial Park to Church Street, a total of sixty buildings were destroyed. The owners, forty-two people suffered a property damage of seven thousand seven hundred dollars.

Four companies were organized, one for each of the four wards which comprised the city at that time -- Neptune Number 1, Eagle Number 2, Rescue Hook and Ladder Number 3, Good Will Number 4. Each company was provided with an engine of little value made at the D. & H. Gravity Railroad shops. In 1852 James Ruthven was chosen as our first fire chief. Due to lack of support these companies disbanded in 1854. In 1855, the city bought an engine of the Button's Piano pattern and gave it to the newly organized Columbia Hose Company. Ninety-six men comprised the first roster. Water still pumped from the river was used until the down town section of the city was destroyed by fire in 1867. The cold weather prevented the flow of a sufficient supply of water and the cold dry wind fanned the flames. Two years later, 1869, with the formation of the Crystal Lake Water Company, hydrants were placed along the streets and enough power to fight fires was furnished. The first fire

truck used in Carbondale was put into service by the Columbias in 1915. This was followed by the Mitchell's truck which was used for a total of twenty-two years. The third hose company, the Cottage Hose Company, was organized in 1894 and for forty-seven years gave splendid service to the city. In 1941 the people of the Fourth Ward, who had financed the company for the most part, were unable to replace its worn-out truck and the company was forced to cease operation. They hope to again serve upon the receipt of the Columbia truck which Council has offered to donate to them.

From these small beginningshas grown our present fire department with its one hundred fifty members and five drivers under the direction of Fire Chief Joseph Healey. Service is volunteer, the men receiving one dollar per hour for each hour they work.

Education of her children has always been considered of the greatest importance by Carbondale. As early as 1831 when the population was small, two one-room schools were built on Church Street on land now occupied by the Presbyterian and Methodist churches. Built of wood they were very small compared to present school buildings. Each building had long benches extending across the room with aisles along the walls. It was the custom in those days and for several years to come for the teacher to walk up and down the aisle with a long stick in hand. This was used on the backs of the children in any row where somebody was idle. No punishing only the guilty party! The room was heated by a stove using both wood and coal. Teachers were very strict and depended greatly on the stick to keep order. Some had good educations but many were very poorly trained. The first teachers were Mr. Evarts and Mr. B. G. Root. The first school principal

was Henry J. Newell who served in 1837. All grades were taught the three r's--Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic, and Spelling. Books, slates and all materials for school use had to be furnished by the pupils themselves. Teachers also were paid by contributions from the parents. Children often had to walk a mile or more to school.

In the period from 1850-1860 seven schools were built among which was the first high school built in 1860 at the corner of Salem Avenue and Park Street. It had four departments--Primary, Intermediate, Junior, and Senior. Through the kindness of Mr. James J. Crane, principal of the Roosevelt School and former Superintendent of Carbondale City Schools we have obtained a copy of an old report on city schools. At this point we would like to insert a few selections taken from the fourth annual report of the Superintendent of Public Schools for the school year ending June 1, 1876. Matthew G. Neary, Superintendent, lists school directors as follows:

1875-1876 -- William R. Baker, Martin Jordan, Daniel Scurry, John Campbell, Stephen Nealon, Thomas M. Nealon.

1876-1877 -- J. B. Van Bergen, Stephen Nealon, John Campbell, Martin Jordan, Thomas M. Nealon, William R. Baker, Matthew G. Neary, Superintendent.

Teachers for the six buildings then in use included Edwin Grancis and Sarah A. Sherer, high school: Mary Jones, John Kelly, John Forbes, grammar school; Amelia Davis, Margaret Moffitt, Nary Nealon, George Foote, Dwight Lathrop, and Lawrence Burke, intermediate; Laura McDowell, Hattie Jay, Sarah Gerrond, Margaret White, Anna McLean, Ann Kelly, Edith Baker, Mary Boland, and Ann Burnett, primary teachers. "In the

year 1868 all the schools of our city, except those of "No. 1" building (the high school) were unfit for use. Today all are new; and all are suitably furnished but three. Yet further accomodations are needed in the Third and Fourth Wards where the schools are crowded and too distant to be regularly attended by the younger pupils of the district. The "White Bridge" (later the Daniel Webster) contains an intermediate and a primary school. The room used as a primary is so small that most of the pupils have to be seated in the intermediate room."

"All the schools are supplied with black boards, maps, alphabetic and reading cards, but devoid of globes, mathematical blocks, and other illustrative apparatus."

"The number of different pupils enrolled during the year was 1965; the average enrollment to each teacher was 63."

Salaries prove very interesting: The male teachers -- five in number -- receiving $72.72 per month; the sixteen females $33.66 for the same period; the superintendent received $300 as his yearly salary.

Grades taught were first to eighth with four years of high school.

Teachers' qualifications differed greatly from present-day standards. One desireing to teach had only to take an examination given by the Superintendent. In 1876 two such examinations were given with teachers certified as follows:

15 provisional, 3 professional, 2 permanent certificates.

The first brick school was the John Marshall built in 1871 on Cemetery Street to Belmont

Street near the old Catholic cemetery.

One of the most popular and best qualified of the earlier teachers was John Kelly, who started his teaching career in the old wooden building on South Main Street. After serving his country in the Civil War he came back and started to teach again.

Modern schools differ in many ways from the early schools. Heating and lighting are very much different. Most of our modern schools are built of brick or cement; heated by steam; lighted by electricity; and contain many rooms with the newest and best equipment. Discipline of children has changed greatly. The stick has passed out with the long bench. Individual seats give a child greater confort in sitting, or moving. Pennsylvania's free text book law gives the pupil all materials needed for his regular work free of cost. Teachers no longer take examinations to qualify for teaching. All must have graduated from college and many teachers now take extra training beyond that required. Salaries have increased but are still far below that now regarded as a living wage. In addition to Benjamin Franklin High School, there are seven public schools, the Roosevelt, William Penn, Washington, Marshall, Wilson, Columbus, Lincoln. St. Rose Parochial school will soon be occupying its new building at the corner of Church Street and Seventh Avenue.

Our Superintendent, Miss Mary B. McAndrew, is now serving her fifth term ably and efficiently. One of the few women in the state ever to hold this position, she has proved that women have great ability if given the opportunity. Under her guidance a Special Class for handicapped children was established in September, 1941. Miss Helen Dockerty has taught this class since

its inception. Kindergartens opened in September, 1942, are well attended in all schools and are doing a wonderful work in preparing children for regular school attendance; a general shop instituted in January, 1946, offers Industrial Arts Classes to the boys, and the very beautiful Home Economic Building purchased in 1947, affords training for our girls. In keeping with the newer trends in education a Guidance Counselor was appointed in September, 1947, and Driver Education instituted in September, 1950. A school band was organized and many other worthwhile projects brought to fulfillment. Carbondale has gone a long way from its two one-room buildings in 1831 to its modern school buildings in 1951. The newly decorated auditorium in Franklin High School is surpassed by none in the state. A comparison of census figures of 1940 with 1950 may prove interesting.

1940 -- 1941

Kindergarten	none
Grade 1	279
Grade 2	293
Grade 3	303
Grade 4	321
Grade 5	314
Grade 6	340
Grade 7	382
Grade 8	358
Total	2590

HIGH

Grade 9	362
Grade 10	345
Grade 11	283
Grade 12	274
Total	1264
Total Enrollment	3854
Number of Teachers	126

1950 -- 1951

Kindergarten	210
Grade 1	227
Grade 2	236
Grade 3	228
Grade 4	216
Grade 5	189
Grade 6	197
Grade 7	173
Grade 8	200
Special Class	14
Total	1890

HIGH

Grade 9	188
Grade 10	184
Grade 11	193
Grade 12	174
Total	739
Total Enrollment	2629
Number of Teachers	112

Carbondale's first post office was located where the coal was loaded in 1829. It was built of logs as were all the buildings at that time. Remodeled in 1845 it was used until 1855 when it burned. For a period of one hundred twenty-one years Carbondale has had postal service. Early mail was delivered either on horse back or by stage coach. Needless to say, service was not nearly so prompt or efficient as today. Hon. T. V. Powderly tells how he used to stand in awe as the "Fast Mail" came rocking and swinging along drawn by four prancing steeds. That old stage coach with it seasick occupants, its bright green body, its gilded panels, and its formidable array of luggage was a wonder.

For many years the post office was located in the City Building in the rooms now occupied by

the Lackawanna Motor Club. In 1911 the present building was opened. Located on North Main Street at its intersection with Lincoln Avenue, the building is of stone construction and of imposing appearance.

The first postmaster was James W. Goff, the present officer is John Nalley. In between their periods of service we find such names as: William Eggleston, H. S. Pierce, C. T. Pierson, Martin Curtis, F. M. Crane, H. P. Ensign, Joseph Gillespie, Anthony Grady, D. N. Lathrope, W. R. Baker, Daniel Predergast, P. S. Joslin, E. Y, Davies, Joseph Powderly, W. L. Yarrington, John Nealon, J. H. Thomas, P. F. Connor, Acting Postmaster B. A. Kelly, J. N. Gelder, H. G. Likely, Frank Kelly, Acting Postmaster John Monaghan, and John Nalley.

Employees at the present time number forty-two.

Delivery is made by postmen, trucks, and rural delivery.

Carbondale passed through the candlelight and Kerosene eras. Finally Thomas Edison with his light bulbs, brought about a brighter Carbondale. Companies were organized to supply people with power, light, and heat. The making of electricity has been a help to all the anthracite industry. The Scranton Electric Company uses six hundred thousand tons of coal yearly to furnish the needed electricity for the Scranton area. The electricity used in Carbondale is generated at Peckville. Joseph Collins is the superintendent of the Carbondale office.

In 1832 Amzi Wilson cam in from Dundaff to publish our first newspaper. The Northern Pennsylvania. Although at that time Dundaff was a thriving community with a subscription

list of five hundred, the number of subscriptions rose to seven hundred in this city. As there were no mail facilities, papers were delivered by a rider on horseback to the surrounding country side. It often took three days for the distribution. An advertisement in the March 11, 1837 issue by Eggleston and Wilbur says that they will sell firedogs, drag teeth, caldron kettles and jewsharps. The Carbondale Tannery advertised for "15 to 20" teams to cart leather from the tannery to New York.

Among other early papers was the Carbondale Journal published in 1838, which advertised building lots sixty by one hundred fifty feet for the princely sum of fifty dollars. The Lackawanna Journal was first printed in 1850. The Carbondale Leader for many years under the leadership of the Lathrope family made its initial appearance in 1872. The paper now known as the Carbondale News is under the able direction of Thomas Heth. It is published daily except Saturday. The Leader was housed on Main Street on the site of the present Acme Market. Later it moved to its new building at the corner of Seventh Avenue and Mill Street, but is now relocated at 41 North Church Street.

The Review established in 1898 and published as an advertising weekly by Charles R. Munn was unique in that it was distributed free of charge to the people of this area. During his time as editor Mr. Munn published many interesting and pertinent articles which showed his intelligent grasp of national and local political affairs. The paper also contained brief reviews of the news items of the week. In March, 1951, the paper was taken over by James Beamish who expects to carry on the policies of the former owner. Mr. Beamish with many years experience as a reporter for the Scranton Tribune, is well qualified for his new position. His paper is now known as the Carbondale Review.

In 1869 the first local water company was organized under the name The Crystal Lake Water Company. Its main use was to insure a sufficient supply of water for the newly installed fire hydrants to guarantee that there would be no repetition of the disastrous fire of 1867. As the city grew in population it spread out and a greater supply of water was needed. Number 4 was put into use, and in 1907 the New Dam was built on land formerly owned by the Delaware and Hudson. Water is also piped from the Artesian Well. Because of Carbondale's locations betwen the mountains, there is always a plentiful supply of water so necessary to the life of the people and their properties.

From earliest days the people of Carbondale have been deeply religious. This is shown by the many church edifices, and also by the fact that one of the names used to describe the city is "The City of Eternal Sabbath." In 1829, a group of ten Presbyterians organized a church. Later on a building was erected on the site of the present church. A bell, cast at the Dickson works at Scranton, was placed in a "Bell House" in 1836. It was used for many years for many purposes, calling to church, or work; as a school bell, announcing important events, deaths, fires. The first minister was Reverend Jonathan Noble, dearly loved by the members of this first Presbyterian Church. The later years of Carbondale citizens have been greatly influenced by the Reverend Charles Lee, an outstanding minister, who spent many years among us.

The brick church razed to make room for the new building in course of construction was built in 1832. When completed the new church promises to be one of the most beautiful in the state. Services are being held in the Irving Theater

and the American Legion Hall. The present minister is the Reverend Malcolm Sweet.

The first group to build a church were the Irish settlers who erected the first St. Rose Chruch in 1830, with Father Clancy in charge. Previous to this time the needs of the Roman Catholics had been cared for by priests from Silver Lake, Susquehanna County. These good priests had brought the sacraments to the faithful. As the number in the parish increased it soon became apparent that more room was needed. In 1842 a bigger church was built with Father Fitzsimmons as pastor. The building was moved when the present building was erected in 1872-1873. The first person to be buried from the present St. Rose Church was Patrick Ferguson, grandfather of Misses Etta and Mary Reilly. The pews had not been installed at that time, 1873.

In 1851 Reverend Thomas Carew became assistant pastor and in 1855, pastor, in which position he served for thirty-six years. The rectory at that time was at the corner of Main Street and Sixth Avenue where the Anthracite Hotel is now. Later the building was removed across the river just below the present Chellino Building. While the rectory was being built, Monsignor Coffey, Father Curran, and Father Hussey, lived at 42 River Street, the first brick house in Carbondale, built about 1870.

Monsignor Thomas Coffey followed Father Carew in 1887 and served until 1925 -- a total of thirty-eight years. Father Walter A. Gorman, a curate during Monsignor Coffey's pastorate, returned as pastor in 1932 on the death of Monsignor Michael F. O'Rourke. Monsignor Gorman was followed by Monsignor William L. Farrell, the present pastor.

The First Methodist Church was organized in 1832

by the Reverend Alanson Reed and a church building was erected that same year with a seating capacity of four hundred fifty. The first parsonage was built in 1843 on the site of the present building. It burned in 1878 and that same year a new one was built. The present Methodist Church was built to replace one which was burned. The pastor is the Reverend Roger B. Glazier.

In 1832 a group under the leadership of Reverend James H. Tyng, a missionary, organized the Episcopal Church. The services were held with the Methodists on alternate Sabbaths for many years. In 1842 their own church was built. The cornerstone of the new church was laid in 1899. The present rector is Reverend Clarke Trumbore. When the old rectory was torn down, a new rectory was located on Lincoln Avenue. Durfee Parish House was erected through funds donated for that purpose by the late Thomas R. Durfee.

In 1833 the Welsh Baptist Church was organized as was the Welsh Calvinistic Church. Welsh families were few and church memberships were not many. In 1835 the Welsh Congregational Church was organized and a building erected on the west side of South Church Street. The church later became the Citadel of the Salvation Army. In 1848 the English Baptists organized the Berean Baptist Church and two years later bought a meeting house of the Methodist Society. During the pastorate of REverend E. L. Bailey (1854-1864) a new church edifice was built. A parsonage was bought in 1869 at Lincoln Avenue and Park Street. The new stone church was later erected at Lincoln and Church where the office of the Benjamin and Van Buren had been located. The parsonage was built next to the church. Reverend Gordon Stone is the present pastor.

In 1900 St. Paul's Luthern Church was incorpo-

rated. A group of eight united to organize a church and rented the Congregational Church at Eighth Avenue and Church Street. The Reverend Mr. Ehinger was the first pastor. The Welsh Baptist Church was purchased in May, 1900. Among the many gifts received was the first crucifix on the alter from the Reverend Thomas A. Coffey of St. Rose Church. The present pastor is the Reverend Amon Lichty who also serves St. Luke's of Archbald.

In 1947 the Church of God Pentacostal Church was built with the Reverend Arthur Hontz as pastor.

In a little frame house at the corner of Villa Street and Brown Street in 1882 the first Mass was said for the people who founded Our Lady of Mount Carmel, July, 1900. For many years the Reverend Anthony Cerruti, the dearly beloved "Father Anthony" served both the Italians and their Irish neighbors. Through their efforts and generosity the church was built and Mass celebrated in it for the first time on Christmas day. This church was destroyed by fire in 1910. In 1925, the present church was completed. Father Anthony died shortly before the date of dedication. Since the death of Reverend Gerald Keegan, Father Paul McKenzie is serving as administrator with Reverend Patrick Cortese as assistant.

Located at the corner of Eighth Avenue and Church Street in what was once the Congregational Church, the Salvation Army has its Citadel and carries on its excellent work. The Reverend and Mrs. Eccleston are in charge.

As the number of our Jewish citizenry increased, they, too, felt the need of a place for religious worship. In 1905 the Synagogue was built on Pike Street near the intersection with Sand Street. The present Rabbi is the Revernd Aaron Goldfinger.

In 1830 there were few streets in Carbondale and the only bridge led to the Log Tavern. It was made of a hemlock log about four feet in diameter, hewn and scored to the center and placed diagonally over the Lackawanna, nearly opposite Trinity Episcopal Church. The first road leading out of Carbondale was the Milford and Owego Turnpike opened 1828.

Streets in the early days under city management were not always in the best of condition as can be seen from a report to council by George H. Wentz, second superintendent of streets in 1851, in which he says that the posts in the ground look like a long rail at an angle of forty-five degrees and some eight or four inches in diameter. If they would use all the same size and range from one to the other, it would look much better. He further suggested that the ashes, rags, old paper, and rubbish should be thrown in a more private place. He finished his report by saying "as the sidewalks are nearly completed, a little attention to Main Street would add to the respectability of the place."

As the present time there are one hundred eighty-six streets in Carbondale. In all there are fifty miles of streets, sixteen miles of which are paved.

History has played a large part in the naming of Carbondale streets. Belmont Street got its name because it led to Belmont Terrace, at Pleasant Mount, the home of Samuel Meredith, the first treasurer of the United States; Cottage Street, which was once part of the "Old Plank Road," led to "The Cottage," the home of Thomas Meredith, the son of Samuel. Pike Street, referred to by older residents as "the Turnpike," was part of the Wilkes-Barre Turnpike. Powderly Street was named for Terrence V. Powderly, a leader of The Knights of Labor, and later Secretary of Immigration in Washing-

ton, D. C. Gravity Avenue follows the route of the old Gravity Railroad used to carry coal over the hills to Honesdale. Others derived their names from the points toward which they led: Salem Avenue led to Salem Township in Wayne County, Wayne Street on the route to Wayne County; Canaan Street led to Canaan Township, Fallbrock to the Falls on Fallbrock Creek, Dundaff Street, the direct route to the then thriving hamlet of Dundaff in early days. As in most cities the presidents of the United States were honored by giving their names to the streets: Washington, Lincoln, Garfield. Church Street became known for the many churches located on that thoroughfare.

Carbondale has been very fortunate in the climate of this region. The high mountains surrounding it have sheltered the city from the greatest severity of many storms, coming from central or western United States. Again the mountains protect the water supply as the trees on their sides hold the moisture at their roots and release this moisture as it is needed. Rainfall is adequate at all times; water for domestic use is always sufficient even in dry periods. Dams and reservoirs store water for such times. The average yearly rainfall is about forty to forty-five inches per year.

Our first theater was the Mansion House which was equipped with a large ball room which was also used for entertainments of various kinds.

Concert Hall which was erected by S. H. Pierson on the corner of North Main and Church Streets, was especially fitted for amusements. The Lackawanna Citizen of September 13, 1850, says: "The dedication of Concert Hall proved a rich treat to an over-flowing audience. We understand the "Peak Family" pronounced it was the best room in which they had sung since they left Boston. On the occasion the music of the

Carbondale Brass Band elicited universal admiration. We are confident there are very few, if any, better bands in the state."

Richmond's Hall was opened on January 25, 1856. It was in the third story of the Pascoe and Scurry building, at the corner of Main Street and Salem Avenue, the site of the Davis Taxi station. The opening was a gala event. There was an address by P. C. Gritman in which he denied rumors that the coal was about used up. All the merchants were present, and a collection was served. The building was considered the most imposing in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Later the old Opera House served for many years. Located in the building next to the American Hotel, it was used until more recent times. Many of the famous actors and actresses brought their plays here. The five and ten cent thrillers played there and in the Academy. However, with the coming of the movies, most of the larger companies left Carbondale off their routes. Now the two movie houses--the Irving named by Mrs. Maude Johnson in honor of Washington Irving credited by many as the person who gave our city its name, and the smaller Majestic, cater to the theater public.

Money was scarce during the panic of 1837. For many years thereafter the currency issued by state banks and used by the people was held at an enormous discount. It was so scarce that some merchants issued bills known as "shin plasters." About 1838 the state was unable to pay its creditors and the legislature authorized the issue of relief notes. For the people of Carbondale, there was a bright spot amid all this trouble. The Delaware and Hudson Company had established a bank of issue in New York and paid their men in its notes. They were never below par in New York which was always the money center of the country.

The first bank in Carbondale was the First National Bank organized in 1864. This bank was originally located on Main Street where the Globe Fashion children's department now stands. The officers in the bank at the time of the Semi-Centennial Celebration in 1901 were: Edward Clarkson, President; James Scott and Edward W. Mills, Vice-Presidents; and Robert A. Jadwin, Cashier. Officers at present are: Alfred P. Wells, President and Robert B. Jadwin, Vice President. The bank had a capital of over six hundred thousand dollars.

The next bank formed was the Miners and Mechanics which closed about 1934, because of a run on the bank. James Paul was the President of this bank when it was forced out of business.

Both the Liberty and the Pioneer Dime Banks were organized in 1903. Officers of the Liberty Bank are: President, C. A. Morgan; Cashier, D. J. Connaughton. Officers of the Pioneer Dime Bank are: President, W. G. Blocksidge; Cashier, Mary B. Kelly.

The three banks are located as follows: First National at the corner of Main Street and Salem Avenue in its new building erected in 1928.

Liberty at the corner of Salem Avenue and Church Street erected in 1903.

Pioneer Dime on North Main Street between Salem and Sixth Avenues. This building was erected in 1904 when the bank was moved from the temporary quarters which it had occupied in the Masonic Building.

Bank deposits in all of these banks are insured up to ten thousand dollars.

In the early 1870's a most unusual occurence

took place. A group of young men, knowing that Mr. James Scott, the cashier, was alone in the bank at noon, entered with drawn guns and demanded the cash on hand. Several days later, some of the group were captured and sent to jail. Others were never caught but rumor always gave credit for their later success in business to the start gained by their share of the stolen bank funds.

The need for police protection was not very serious in Carbondale's early days. Few offences against the peace occurred. The first police force was organized in 1840 about eleven years before Carbondale became a city. For many years there was one man serving until 1850, when Thomas Dickson, Evan Harris, and Thomas Gillespie were to select twenty-five men to serve as policemen in case of fire and to protect property from plunder. Early records fail to give the names of those who served at that time; but about 1875 the force consisted of Chief Duggan and Officer Lunny. There was no regular police headquarters at that time nor for some time later. The wooden court house erected in 1852 at a cost of three thousand dollars was destroyed by fire in 1859. The present brick building was erected in 1869.

When Carbondale elected the Commission form of government, James McAndrew, father of Miss Mary B. McAndrew, Superintendent of our city's schools, was chief of police, and served efficiently in that position for several years. The motorcycle in use for some time was replaced by our first car in 1932 while Frank O'Boyle was serving as chief of police. He was succeeded by Francis Judge, our present presiding officer. His record has been most progressive and we are very proud of his activities. Our police department now numbers twenty-one besides the chief.

Our police equipment now consists of one police car; one radio for sending and receiving messages direct from headquarters to the car: a teletype machine for receiving reports on police matters; on a country-wide search; police telephones about the city for the men on their beats to call in reports; and signal lights to remind the officers when they are to call into headquarters. They are found in the following places around the city: North Church Street at the Berean Baptist Church; Eighth Avenue; at the Elite Restaurant on the corner of Sixth Avenue and Main Street; Pike Street at Joseph's Jewelry store.

The police now work on an eight hour shift and change shifts so that each man has a chance for a day shift. The forces also has a pension fund to be used upon retirement.

Carbondale's first band was Hetherbee's Band. It was organized in 1839 and in 1840 was in its prime. James J. Hetherbee was the leader and the organization was kept up until the year 1860. In 1850 Carbondale Brass Band gained much notice when it played at the opening of Concert Hall. In the years that followed there were other bands such as the Fife and Drum Corps, the Mozart's. Organized in the early 1900's the Mozart's werestill in existence until recently. Bly's Band under the leadership of Leon L. Bly, was very active during the later war years and accompanied all service men when they entrained for camp. Later the Legion Drum Corps were organized but interest dwindled and they have disbanded. In 1926 the Benjamin Franklin High School Band was organized under the leasership of Mr. Bly and is now directed by his son Musin Bly since the retirement of Mr. Leon Bly.

The first hospital built in Carbondale was the Emergency located on what is now called Hospital

Street. It was a large wooden building which for a long time, under the able direction of Superintendent Miss Alice Hart, cared for the sick and injured of the area. Finally the hospital outgrew its quarters and a new building was erected on Fallbrook Street with ample room for expansion. Nurses were trained here for many years. Later the City Private Hospital was founded in what is now the Wade Apartments. The latest hospital built is St. Joseph's on Lincoln Avenue. It is one of the most modern and best equipped hospitals in the nation. An able staff of well trained Sisters--members of the Immaculate Heart of Mary order--direct the policies of the institution. They also maintain a splendid training school for nurses.

The city of Carbondale is located on the Lackawanna River sixteen miles northeast of Scranton. It is served by three "class A" railroads; the Erie, Delaware & Hudson, and New York, Ontario, and Western. These three railroads handle all types of freight and operate under agreements whereby freight can be transferred from one line to another without any increase in cost to the shipper.

The community offers trucking service in the form of twenty major trucking lines, which provide overnight service to New York, Philadelphia, and other cities.

A manufacturer desiring rapid express or personal transportation will find the Avoca Airport readily accessible. The Avoca Airport is located approximately twenty-five miles from Carbondale and can be reached by automobile in about forty-five minutes. It is served by the major airlines, such as American, Colonial, and United. The Carbondale-Clifford Airport, three miles from Carbondale, has facilities for private planes and provides chartered planes to all points.

Carbondale has twenty manufacturing establishments which employ approximately one thousand four hundred male and female workers. The principal manufacturers of the city are perforated metals, machinery, wearing apparel, toys and novelties.

The list of manufacturers in Carbondale are as follows:

Allen Underwear Manufacturing Company, 50 S. Main Street. Women's Rayon and Nylon Knit Underwear -- "Trico."
Employees: 200 female.

Carbondale Children's Dress Company -- Children's Dresses.
Employees: 125

Carbondale Fur Manufacturing Company -- Furs.
Employees: 6.

Carbondale Products Company, Inc. -- Ladies' Undergarments.
Employees: 60.

Carbondale Toy and Novelty Manufacturing Co. -- Toys and Novelties. Employees: 10 men.

Carbondale Underwear Manufacturing Co. -- Ladies" Nylon Knit Underwear.
Employees: 150 female.

Cross Engineering Co. -- Perforated Metals.

Frances Dress Co. -- Women's and Misses' Clothing.
Employees: 75.

Granada Sportswear Co. -- Men's and boys Clothing.
Employees: 35 female.

Hendrick Mfg. Co. -- Perforated Metal Screens, Perforated metal grilles, elevator buckets, "Mitco" interlocked steel gratings and light and heavy steel plate construction.
Employees: 285

Paula Lee Frocks, Inc. -- Women's and Misses' Dresses.
Employees: 50 female, 5 male.

Pennalloys, Inc. -- Pipes and Smokers' Articles.
Employees: 25.

Seamprufe, Inc. -- Women's Slips.
Employees: 150 female.

Ben Weisberg -- Children's and Infants' Clothing.
Employees: 150 female.

Sitzco Dress Factory -- Dresses.
Employees: 150 female.

Starlette Dress Co. -- Dresses.
Employees: 50 female.

Umholtz Manufacturing Co. -- Women's and Misses' Clothing.
Employees: 45.

V. & B. Sauce Co. -- Condiments.
Employees: 2.

In February, 1950, in co-operation with other communities of Lackawanna County, Carbondale started the "Lackawanna Industrial Fund Enterprises (LIFE) Campaign. The non-profit corporation was established for the purpose of promoting the industrial development of the various communities of Lackawanna County. The plan is to erect industrial buildings and to make them available to reputable firms or individuals planning expansion of new industries.

A manufacturer seeking a location for expansion or for a new industrial development would find the following advantages in the Carbondale Area: a healthful and invigorating climate, a readily available labor supply; good workers; adeptable to almost any kind of manual work: a good place to live with adequate educational and recreational facilities; available land for future expansion; an adequate supply of water, fuel, and power; and last but not least, a very fine community spirit.

Since the founding of the city the mining of anthracite has been the chief industry. Railroads and shops depended upon it for its existence. The manufacture of iron and steel products commenced at an early date and still is one of our chief occupations. The Hendrick Company and the Cross Engineering furnish steel grilles, screens, and hundreds of other products to all parts of the country.

For many years -- until our war with Japan -- the manufacture of silk was a major industry. The cleanliness of anthracite coal and an abundant supply of labor recruited from the ranks of the wives and daughters of the miners were factors in its development. When the market for raw silk from China and Japan was closed to us, the mills were converted into dress factories. There are now twelve such manufacturing concerns making women's dresses, children's dresses, lingerie.

Many smaller establishments turn out varied products even to such things as dolls' clothes, and baseball bats. Arnold and Son employing two men are the bat manufacturers.

The first manufacturing industry of Carbondale was that of Eggleston and Reed, which stood on Foundry Street, now known as Lincoln Avenue. There were only two men employed and not enough

work for them all the time. So great was the desire for work that whenever there was a runaway on the Gravity their first question always was: "Any wheels broke?" As they made the planes for the Gravity they were deeply interested in whatever concerned the railroad. The first factory was owned by C. T. Pierson.

In 1824 the first settlers, a group of men from the British Isles, began the building of what was to be the first city in northeastern Pennsylvania. These men -- English, Welsh, Scotch, and Irish, were followed soon by others from their homelands; later Germans came to seek their fortunes; and as the years passed Itilians, Polish, and Russians came in large numbers until at present Carbondale numbers among its citizens representatives of almost every nation in the world.

Two of Carbondale's oldest "grand old ladies" have given us some idea about life in olden times. Mrs. Mary Ann Kelly, aged 90 of 102 River Street, tells of carrying water from a well to her home for quite some distance. If rain threatened all available pots, pans and tubs were put out to catch the rain. Coal then cost $1.25 a ton to company employees.

Miss Mary Ann Norton, 97 years old, lives with her nieces, Misses Mary and Gertrude Thomas of 78 River Street. She tells that in her girlhood "Indians lived on John Street." She related an amusing story about a young couple who trudged through blustery cold weather to have an infant baptized only to find the holy water in the font had frozen.

In July, 1850, occurred the great flood which happened when Durfee's Dam on the Racketbrook gave way. The torrent swept everything before it. Rushing through Church and Main Streets it tore down several small buildings, flooded

the first floors of homes and stores with mud and water, and deposited flood-wood to a height of many feet on the streets. The Lackawanna swollen to great size overflowed its banks and flowed into the mines causing great destruction. Warning had been given the miners and only two are beleived to have been drowned in the flood.

The most sorrowful time in the history of the city was the period of the Black Fever epidemic. It began December 1, 1863 and continued until April, 1864. There were four hundred deaths in all. Many families fled although the authorities tried to stop the spreading of the disease by burning tar on the public square. This did not help.

Another epidemic occurred in 1870. Smallpox scourged the city until 1875. The deaths were so numberous that it became necessary for burials to take place at night. A group of young men who did not fear the disease took care of this grewsome task. One of these courageous men was John Riley who often told of his experiences at that time.

There are five important monuments in Carbondale, two of which are in Memorial Park. In 1950 the latest one was erected by the Gold Star Mothers for the men who died bravely in the Spanish-American War, World War I, and World War II. It is an oblong, granite cut stone with an emblem of an eagle on the top. The first memorial was erected in 1885 by the citizens of Carbondale to honor the veterans of the Civil War. It has a square base tapering to the top with a model of a Civil War veteran in the army suit of that time time On it, are the names of some of the most famous battles of the Civil War.

About 1909 a monument was set up to show where the first railroad, the Gravity, started. This was erected on Brook Street.

On the southerly side of the City Building stands the monument erected to honor the memory of Patrolman William F. McAndrew who was shot while attempting the arrest of a robber who had terrorized the upper part of the Lackawanna County for several months. The money for this monument was donated by the citizens of Carbondale in 1913.

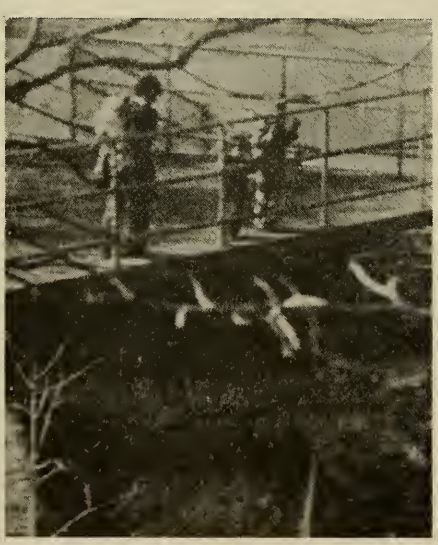
In 1901, the fiftieth anniversary of the city, the monument just north of Seventh Avenue on the west side of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad tracks, was erected to mark the spot where coal was first mined in Carbondale. The inscription reads:

"The first underground anthracite mine opened here June 1831 by Archbald Law, first mining engineer of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Co., John Wurts, President, and John H. Williams, Treasurer. Officers of the Company, 1901 Robert M. Olyphant, President, F. M. Olyphant, Secretary, C. A. Walker, Treasurer, C. C. Rose, Superintendent Coal Department. Erected 1901."

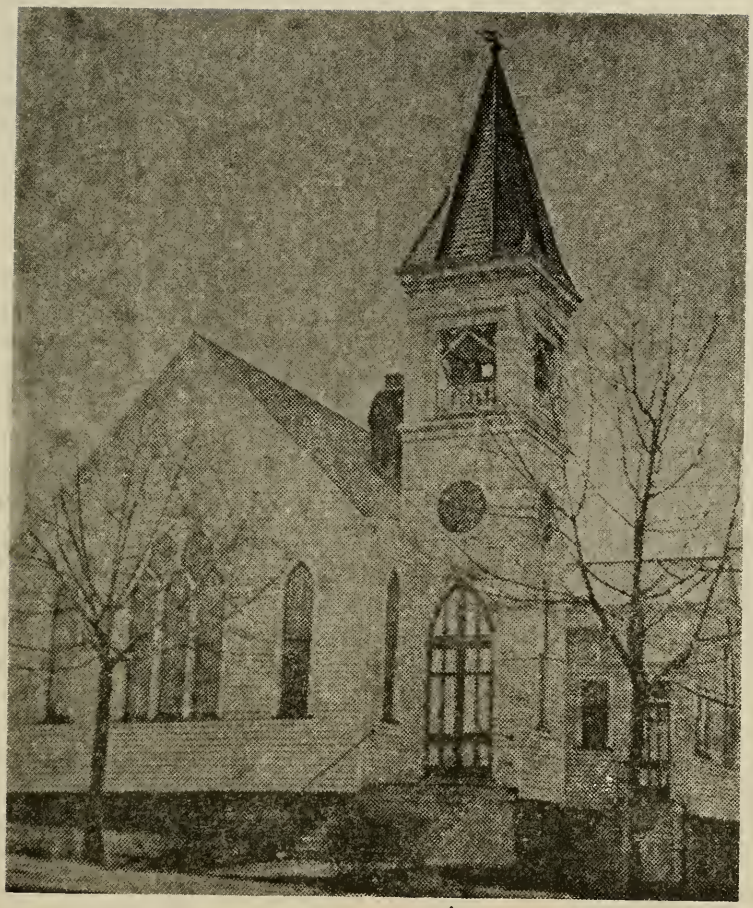
Northeastern Pennsylvania is not so fortunate as to possess any deposits of natural gas. However, the needs of the city have been cared for by the manufacture of artificial gas. In 1859 a company was formed and opened a gas house at the corner of Eighth Avenue and Mill Street. In manufacturing the gas, coal is heated in fireproof clay retorts until tar, gas, and other products are obtained. The gas passes through pipes of water to remove the tar and other impurities, through condensers and scrubbed to remove more tar. It is then stored in huge tanks.

The Archbald glacial pothole, the largest in the world, is located on the Hackley tract at Eynon about six miles from Carbondale. It was discovered by Patrick Nealon, a miner employed by

Jones and Simpson Company in April, 1883. The pothole surpasses in size the much more noted ones in Switzerland and has been visited by prominent scientists as well as by thousands of other visitors. Colonel Hackley appropriated five hundred dollars for the preservation of the pothole and under the direction of Edward Jones, a stone enclosure was built around it. Numerous other potholes have been uncovered in the borough. J. P. Lesley, state geologist at the time of the discovery, explained that the holes are of the glacial period and are the direct result of rocks swirling around in the depression in the valley bed. He estimated that the ice at Archbald during the glacial period was at least two thousand feet thick. The tract in which the pothole is located is now owned by the Lackawanna Historical Society. The Lackawanna Motor Club has more recently shown renewed interest in the phenomenon and is hopeful that the state will set aside land to form a state park here.



ARCHBALD POTHOLE— The world's largest glacial pothole, carved from the earth as the giant glaciers receded at the end of the Ice Age. The area is also a state park.



The Bennett Memorial Methodist Church
The Little White Church On The Hill
New Grant and Chapel Streets
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
1894

A MISSION, A CHAPEL, AND A CHURCH

The history of the Bennett Memorial Methodist Church is a vivid record of missionary enterprise, a modern embodiment of the words of Jesus, "other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours."

The Bennett Church had its inception as the Scott Street Mission School, a branch of the Sunday School of the First M. E. Church of Wilkes-Barre. Its first meeting place was the old Baltimore Public School building situated on Scott Street, near the intersection of Schoolhouse Lane. There on January 8, 1893, the first Sunday School of Bennett Memorial Methodist Church, was held. It was organized at the call of Walter J. Symons, Andrew Symons, and Alfred Johns. It boasted of a first day enrollment of 69 teachers and scholars. John V. Brownell was appointed as the first superintendent, while Byron G. Hahn, served as secretary, and Miss Lillian Hance as organist.

Services were held each Sunday in the empty rooms which had been placed at the mission's disposal by the Wilkes-Barre City School Board. "To heat and furnish suitably, and to equip the school with the necessary literature," Dr. J. Richards Boyle, the pastor of the First M. E. Church, reported to the Quarterly Conference in March, 1894, that he "expended the sum of $100.87, and to meet the obligations thus incurred, received privately from friends $91.87 leaving a balance unpaid of $9.00." Other expenses of the school for the year 1893 and until the time of the pastor's report were met by the school.

Immediately the mission school began to make great strides in its development, reaching a total membership of 9 officers and 162 pupils by March 27, 1894. It soon became obvious that the growth was too rapid to warrant maintenance

of permenent quarters in the public school building. Dr. Boyle, when reporting of its progress stated, "This school has grown and flourished from its first session and has already abundantly demonstrated the necessity and wisdom of its establishment. If we can secure for it adequate and permanent quarters, it will soon become the nucleus of a new and promising church."

It was not long before this dream was realized. The people of the First M. E. Church, along with those who were to make up the membership of the new church soon purchased a lot at the corner of New Grant and Hillard Lane from the Delaware and Hudson Coal Company for $1800. In July, 1894 the plans were adopted and a building committee was appointed. The members of the committee were George S. Bennett, Duning Sturdevant, Alexander Mitchell, John Hance, B. M. Espy, and J. Richards Boyle. The architect was Benjamin D. Price of Philadelphia. On the basis of bids received, the contract was awarded to Wilson J. Smith, Esq., a member of the First M. E. Church. So energetic was the builder that on Sunday, September 20, 1894, after the mission school on Scott Street had completely outgrown its facilities, it was possible for the people of the community to gather at the site of the new edifice and there at impressive ceremonies witness the laying of the corner-stone by Dr. Boyle. On the following January 20, 1895, three weeks later than originally had been planned, the tuscan red and olive trimmed Bennett Chapel was dedicated and formally opened for the purpose of devine worship. The Chapel was named in honor of Mrs. Priscilla Lee Bennett, "whose useful life and Godly example" in the words of Dr. Boyle "have for more than a generation been an inspiration to our First Church, and whose generous aid made the new chapel a possibility at this time." Mrs. Bennett's contribution was $2400. The sermon of dedication

was delivered by Rev. G. E. Reed, L.L.D., the president of Dickinson College. He used as his Dickinson College. He used as his text, Luke 7.5, "He hath built us a synagogue." Other clergymen who participated in the service of dedication were Dr. Hard Manley, the presiding Elder, Dr. Boyle, Rev. J. W. Webb, D. D., Rev. H. C. McDermott of Central M. E. Church, and Rev. L. L. Sprague, D.D. Mr. George S. Bennett made the presentation of the church.

The Chapel, at the time of the dedication, was described as "57 x 68 feet in size and one story high adorns one corner, and the auditorium, which will seat 210 persons, is connected by folding partitions, with a large prayer room at the front, and with wings on each side, which can all be thrown together, giving accomodations for about 400 people. The main ceiling is 16 feet high at the eaves and 24 feet in the center. The interior finish is cypress wood in natural color."

Prior to the dedication, Miss Emily E. Cummings was appointed deaconess of the new parish and to her willing efforts and devoted service must be attributed much of the success of the Sunday School and the church. As testimony of her endeavors is the fact that in 1896 she was directing an Epworth League with a membership of 144 and a Junior League of 78 members. With the assistance of Miss Mary Welles she conducted the regular prayer meeting and a series of cottage prayer meetings. The first catechumen class was organized and directed by her and was held in the Walter Symons' homestead before the opening of the church.

One year after the dedication of the church the Rev. Charles H. Seward, a student at Wyoming Seminary, was appointed as the first pastor. After 1901 the school was organized on an independent basis but the work of the church

was under the direction of the assistant pastors of the First M. E. Church until Bennett emerged as a separate conference appointment in 1906.

In the year 1903 the parsonage which is located on the property adjacent to the church grounds was purchased from the Williams' estate for $2000. The family of the Rev. John E. Bone was the first to occupy it.

During the pastorate of the Rev. John L. Thomas, the pews were installed, and the church bell was received from the Central Methodist Church; 1906 - 1909.

Other highlights of the development of the church included a revival meeting during the pastorate of the Rev. Lester Kilpatrick in January, 1917.

On October 6, 1920 the mortgage on the parsonage was burned.

During the pastorate of the Rev. George H. Prentice in 1921, the lighting system was installed in the church with $333 subscribed for its payment in February of that year. The parsonage was also wired during this time and the cost was met entirely with the tithe money of the Prentice family. In the month of May of the same year $200 was set aside as the basis for a Basement Fund.

In March of the following year Evangelist Billy Watson and wife of Stanford, New York, conducted a three week revival campaign. The Rev. Mr. Watson received train fare for himself and his wife as well as their free board and lodging. A farewell offering of $122.35 was also given to them at the close of the meetings.

In May, 1922 an organ was purchased from the Miners Mills Church for $25. This apparently

was the second organ to be received by the church within a period of three months, since Mrs. George Whipple offered an organ to the church in February of the same year.

In the year 1926 several important changes were made in the church. Bennett no longer remained a separate conference appointment, and became a part of the Bennett-St. Andrew's Charge. A steam and vapor heating system was installed by James V. Davis of Kingston at a cost of $1500, fifty dollars of which was returned as a gift of Mr. Davis. The plant was completed by the end of the summer.

In 1927 the long dreamed of basement was beginning to take shape. In April the boys of the church had dug the dirt out from under one part of the church and Harold Symons obtained enough pipes to support the flooring of the original portion of the building. The plumbing contract for the basement was given to a Mr. Williams. This portion of the work was completed in July and in the following October, J. W. Thomas, the contractor, was engaged in preparing the basement of the church. This work was completed in July, 1928. The basement was wired the following October.

In 1933 during the Pastorate of Rev. W. Sylvester York, the church celebrated the fourtieth anniversary of its dedication with a former minister, the Rev. Charles E. Newing preaching on the text Hebrews 11.6.

In 1939 during Rev. Arthur B. Mayo's pastorate the new carpet was bought for the church sanctuary. The church was painted and new hymnals were bought while Rev. Benjamin J. Ridgley was pastor in 1941.

On September 20-21, 1944, the church celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the laying of the

corner-stone. Dr. J. Rolland Crompton, the district superintendent was the speaker on the first evening, and the program was concluded the next evening with one of the turkey suppers for which Bennett is noted.

A MEMORIAL POEM

Written by Mrs. Mary E. Symons on the Occasion of The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Laying of the Corner-Stone of the Bennett Memorial Methodist Church of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

I stood on this foundation
  Just fifty years ago
And witnessed with a happy heart
  The scenes that thrilled me so.

The setting of the corner-stone
  Of this Memorial Church,
The climax of our fondest dreams,
  Our prayers, hopes, and research.

Some planks laid on the cross-beams
  Formed a platform good and strong.
And there a people gathered.
  Now listen to their song:

  How firm a foundation,
  Ye saints of the Lord,
  Is laid for your faith
  In His excellent word!

  What more can He say
  Than to you He hath said,
  To you who for refuge
  To Jesus hath fled?

And now the invocation
  By First Church, Dr. Boyle,
Who is humble supplication
  Poured out his very soul

For the young of this new parish,
  For old as well as young,
And for the little children
  Whose lives had just begun.

A brief address, another hymn,
  Sung in lusty, happy tone,
And then the ceremonial
  Of the precious corner-stone.

A Mr. George K. Bennett,
  Saintly and true as steel,
Who with is godly mother
  Made possible this deal.

Took over. Then with fitting words
  Described the progress, clear,
The many points of contact
  And the joy that we are here.

Then he lifted up the cap-stone
  That revealed an inner space,
Where precious deeds and records
  Could never be displaced.

He held aloft each article.
  Its purpose, place and need
Was fully, briefly stated,
  Then deposited as decreed.

He first placed in a Bible,
  Then a scroll of names and dates,
A record of the donors
  Of gifts both small and great.

A program of this day's events,
  Committees who had served,
And last a Record of the times.
  Those things are now preserved.

Then he replaced the cap-stone
Just fit it into place;
Then with trowel and some mortar
He sealed that sacred place.

Then came the Benediction
All conclusive word of love
Like the blessed dew of heaven
Coming down from God above.

A woman--with an infant
In her arms--was standing there
Her soul took in that picture
While her heart invoked a prayer.

Oh God of Love and Mercy,
Thou who doest all things well
Make this place a gate of heaven
Where thine own redeemed doth dwell.

Make this place a gospel center
Make this place a house of prayer
Where they saints shall often gather
And together meet Thee there.

MRS. PRISCILLA LEE BENNETT

"The dear Lord's best interpreters
Are humble human souls;
The gospel of a life like theirs
Is more than books or schrolls.
From scheme and creed the lights go out,
The saintly fact survives;
The Blessed Master none can doubt,
Revealed in human lives.

- Whittier

Bennett Memorial Methodist Church

Pastors

Charles H. Seward	1896-1897
Charles Smith	1897-1898
John C. Tenant	1898-1899
Jonas Underwood	1899-1901
Charles H. Seward	1901-1902
Dondald S. McKeller	1902-1903
John E. Bone	1903-1905
John N. Goodrich	1905-1906
John L. Thomas	1906-1909
Joshua Brundle	1909-1913
John R. Austin	1913-1915
Ernest Colwell	1915-1916
Lester Kilpatrick	1916-1919
Owen Buck	1919-1920
George Prentice	1920-1923
Walter Williams	1923-1925
Scott D. Clarke	1925-1927
Lloyd A. Duren	1927-1930
Charles H. Newing	1930-1933
Wilton J. Dubrick	1933-1935
W. Sylvester York	1935-1937
Hugh G. Klinetob	1937-1939
Arthur B. Mayo	1939-1941
Benjamin J. Ridgley	1941-1942
Robert E. Grover	1942-1947
Rexford Crounse	1947-1951
Hendry C. Kiesell	1951-1953
Thomas Williams	1953-1955
Harold Thompson	1955-1956
John C. Chesterfield	1956-1963
Westley R. Crompton	1963-1967
James D. Edwards	1967-1968
David Wertz	1968-1969
Guy Burt	1971-1979

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